

July
2014

In this issue

Message from
the Headteacher
- page 2

Theatre
Experiences
- page 3

Exploring
Diversity
- page 4

Kingston
Lacy Art Trip
- page 5

Young
Enterprise
- page 6

Engineering
Education
- page 6

Art
Display
- page 7

Sports
News
- page 16

NOTRE VOYAGE EN FRANCE

Year 9 students once again enjoyed their stay with French families as part of the French Exchange to Yvetot France in May this year.

The girls had to get up early to board the early morning ferry from Poole. On arriving in Yvetot around 5pm the girls went off to spend the weekend with their host families, experiencing the treats and events that they had kindly organised.

On the Monday the students enjoyed a day in Rouen, including a tour of the city followed by an art workshop and tour of museum.

Tuesday brought a very rainy day but the group still ventured into Paris - climbing the Arc de Triomphe, visiting the Eiffel Tower, and taking a boat trip along the River Seine.

Wednesday was spent with host families and Thursday was sadly travelling home - but the students were distracted by a stop off in Honfleur for some last minute shopping.

The trip was a great success and an excellent experience for the Year 9 girls - lots of friendships were formed and much French spoken! Well done to all that participated.



CODE BREAKING

Year 9 were treated to an exciting day of codebreaking this term!

James Grime from Cambridge University fascinated his audience by giving a wonderful talk on the history of codebreaking. He then showed the students an Enigma machine from WWII and demonstrated how it worked.

Following on from that students took part in a codebreaking competition - they started working in large groups, then they had a session pairs to crack as many codes as possible.

It was a great day and all the students had a very enjoyable - and brain taxing - time!



CHARITY TRIATHLON

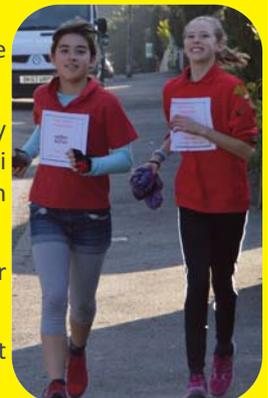
Earlier this year two Year 7 students took up the wonderful challenge of competing in a minitriathlon to raise funds for charity.



Chloe Crowther and Katy Philps of 7K completed a mini triathlon of a 15km cycle, 2km swim and 3km run.

Together they raised £106 for Sports Relief.

What a fantastic achievement by them both!



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

It is incredible to think that we are approaching the end of the academic year. My congratulations to students from all year groups that have completed external and end of year examinations over the last few weeks. The level of hard work, determination and a positive attitude has been overwhelming.

It has been yet another extremely busy term at Parkstone. Our GreenPower teams have taken to the track at Goodwood for practice races in their electric cars and are now fine-tuning their vehicles for the final races. We have been very privileged this year to have worked with the RNLI on an engineering project. Our students impressed the leaders so much that since the completion of the project the team have been asked to present their prototype autopilot system to senior managers – clearly female engineers of the future!

We have run many trips over the last term and have benefitted from the wonderful weather. Year 8 students took part in a Maths residential to Osmington Bay. Years 10 and 8 have taken part in Geography fieldtrips to Studland and to the New Forest. Year 9 students have been on the French exchange and as I write the German exchange have just departed. Year 10 students visited the Battlefield sites of the First World War in France and Belgium – made even more poignant in this centenary year. These are just a few of the opportunities on offer and I am very grateful to the commitment of staff in providing such enrichment.

The music department has had a busy term preparing for their Tuscany Music Tour. They thrilled the audience of the fundraising 'Viva Italia' concert with the extensive repertoire. The department has also recently performed with both the Police Choir and the Winton Salvation Army Band, as well as performing weekly at Brownsea Island over the summer season.

Our PE department has been extraordinarily busy and are now running heats for our forthcoming Sports Day. The Junior and Intermediate Track and Field Squads performed brilliantly at the English Schools' Track and Field Cup First Round, at Kings Park. It was a clear win for the junior team. Ashleigh Power, Year 10, has now been selected to attend the English Schools Championships, a very prestigious event for the elite athletes in the country. She will be throwing the hammer. This year has also been exceptional for our sailing teams. Madeleine Watkins, Imogen Kemp and Mala Sian entered the Dorset Regatta at Weymouth and despite some tricky conditions gained 1st place.

We have seen a number of special learning days this term. Year 8 students experienced a Technology day in which they 'upcycled' a shoe that they designed, promoted and pitched to a Dragon's Den panel. Year 8 students have also had a Citizenship Day in which they learned about the development of political parties and worked with a local candidate for the 2015 General Election and Young Parliament leaders. Year 9 students took part in a codebreaking day where they had the opportunity to see the famous Enigma machine that proved vital to the Allied war effort.

This term has seen both the KS3 and KS4 Charity weeks where girls raised money for their chosen causes. Candy floss, chocolate fountains, tombola, quizzes and, of course, cake sales led to very impressive fundraising – well done to all involved!

Can I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to wish your family a restful and enjoyable summer holiday.

Tracy Harris



LOOKING INTO TOURISM

Year 10 Geographers had an industrious day when they went to Studland beach to collect data for their controlled assessment. They were studying the impact of tourism on the coast.

Each group took measurements across the dunes on evidence of human impacts and how the dunes change away from the beach. They went to different areas of Studland to see how some areas were more damaged than others. A visitor survey was also conducted to see where tourists went and what damage they noticed and also evidence about the number of different people in varying areas. It was a lovely warm day and the ice cream also went down well!

It was great to spend the day out of school and enjoying the outdoors.

£10 & Counting!

Fifty of our Year 9 students rose to the challenge this year to turn £10 and an idea into as much profit as possible in one month.

The Tenner Challenge has been running for a number of years and encourages young people to make a difference to society by producing a product to earn money and donating a proportion of the profits to a charity or good cause. This year's participants were very creative producing plaster animals and beaded jewellery as well as services such as car washing, shopping, gardening, window cleaning and wallpaper stripping.

Although not all the girls/teams were able to make a profit, all the money borrowed from the Young Enterprise Tenner bank was repaid and over £3000 profit was earned once the initial £500 loan was deducted. A large proportion of this was then donated to good causes and charities. The winning team of five students made £1000 profit in the month.

EPQ

An extremely successful first full year of Extended Professional Qualification has resulted in 26 students completing the qualification – with hopefully an excellent set of grades in the Summer of 2014. The Extended Project Qualification is an opportunity for students to extend their study through a personal research project.

The students' presentations were of an exceptionally high standard, and written assignments were of a standard that would not be out-of-place at undergraduate level.

There will be a over 50 girls starting the EPQ process at the end of Year 12 (to complete during the Spring term 2015).

OSMINGTON BAY

48 Year 8 students left school on Friday 6 June for the Maths residential trip to PGL Osmington Bay in Dorset. The centre is set in a spectacular location, right on the cliff top and we all had superb sea views from our bedroom windows. .

The aim of the trip was to provide an opportunity for the girls to experience things that they cannot do within school and to be able to apply their mathematical skills in situations that they would not encounter in the classroom. Activities included :

A quad biking session called Full Throttle in which we recorded the times it took us to go around the beach and we then carried out speed distance time calculations,

A rope based activity called Heart Beat in which we used data logging equipment to record pulse rates and then report on our findings about how our pulse rates changed

An orienteering exercise called Marker Trail where the girls recorded their route using a GPS device and then plotted their route using Google maps.

A problem solving session where we had to do things like stand on a giant see-saw to get it to balance.

We also did a few activities just for fun such as a zip wire and a snapchat challenge.

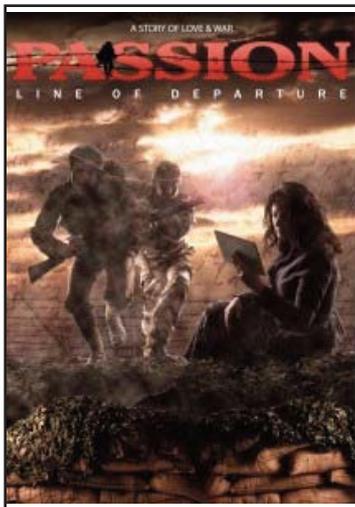
We had fabulous weather for the trip and had a great time.



THEATRE EXPERIENCES TO COME ...

The Drama Departments of Parkstone and Poole Grammar School have planned several trips and events for students over the coming months. To make sure you don't miss out here are the details of forthcoming trips and visits. Keep an eye out for the trip letters.

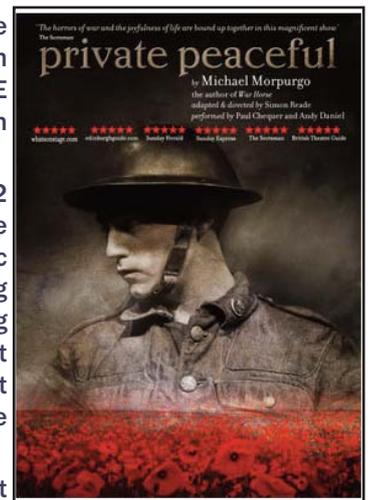
On Wednesday 15th October 2014 we will see 'Private Peaceful' at 7pm at Lighthouse Theatre. The trip is open to GCSE Drama and A Level Theatre Studies students from both Parkstone and Poole Grammar School as possible material for: Section C of the GCSE Drama written paper; the AS Live Production Unit 2 written paper and as further inspiration for Unit 1 and Unit 3 practical work at AS and A2.



On Wednesday 19 November we are running a Year 12 and 13 Theatre Studies London Trip to see a matinee performance of The Cherry Orchard at the Young Vic (directed by Katie Mitchell who we study as a leading theatre practitioner for Unit 2) and an evening performance of Matilda at The Cambridge Theatre (a great example of creative adaptation which we explore as part of Unit 4). Both performances provide material for Live Production analysis for Unit

As part of the centenary commemoration of the First World War the Drama Department has arranged for the award-winning AsOne Theatre Company to perform 'Passion' followed by a Q and A at Parkstone Grammar School for students in Year 9 as well as A level Theatre Studies students. The A level group will also have an hour long workshop with the company before the show to explore Verbatim Theatre. 'Passion' draws on real life experiences of wars through the last century to the present day.

Splendid Theatre Company will visit Parkstone Grammar School again this winter to perform their adaptation of 'Woyzeck' to our GCSE Drama and A Level Theatre students on the morning of 4 December. A level students will also have an hour long workshop with the company before or after the show. This opportunity may provide material for: GCSE Section C of the written paper, AS Live Production written paper as well as skill development for the A Level Unit 1 and 3 practical assessments.



SSF

Congratulations to all girls who auditioned for 'The Tempest'. It was a very strong field indeed. Girls from Year 7 and 8 had to prepare a short speech by Prospero, the main character in the play. They had to perform in front of all the other auditionees and Miss Whelan. Over 50 students auditioned over 3 lunchtimes competing for just 30 places. There will be opportunities to audition or take part in other performances over the next few years so please try again next time. The cast will perform to the public at the Lighthouse Poole on November 6th and tickets may be purchased through the theatre's own Box Office nearer the time.



EXPLORING DIVERSITY

Tuesday 20 May saw the Year 10 Anti-Bullying Ambassadors take a trip to attend a Diversity Conference at Poole Lighthouse. It included a range of guest speakers: Chris Jarvis (a presenter from CBeebies); Shaine Skinner (from Channel 4's programme The Undateables); Dorset Police; Heathlands Primary School; and Dylan Hayden (from the Space Youth Project here in Poole).

On the day, Parkstone's Anti-Bullying Ambassadors split up and each took part in two of the six workshops available throughout the day.

To kick things off, guest speaker Chris Jarvis gave his talk to a packed room. Besides from being a tv presenter, he is also a Freelance script writer. He spoke about television and how its job is to reflect the diversity of the nation. "As a script writer, it's key to understand the importance of 'word power'", he says. "With words we can hit lots of people on Facebook and Twitter as opposed to a physical punch to just one person. It's also there forever."

There was also a short presentation given by the star leaders at Heathlands Primary School based on the Equality Act. Equality and diversity are promoted well within their school and all the students are aware of everyone else's rights.

Next was Shaine Skinner, a local poet, who read his own poems about bullying, hate crimes and living with a disability. He also spoke about his traumatic run-ins with bullies which he encountered at school (one even included him almost being stabbed, literally, in the back). He coped by immersing himself in the arts and his experiences have inspired many of his poems.

After this, the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors proceeded to their chosen workshops. They were workshops on: disability ran by The Chatterboxes and Bournemouth YMCA; HIV/AIDS awareness; racism led by TEAM (Together Everyone Achieves More); faith and ageism; transgenderism; and homophobia.

The Chatterboxes is an organisation run by young people with disabilities for similar young people. The focus is on sharing information and offering support for youngsters with disabilities such as autism. They talked about their own personal experiences with disabilities and what they are grateful for. A large list of celebrities with disabilities was also revealed, for example: Justin Timberlake and David Beckham both have OCD and Kiera Knightley has dyslexia.

In the HIV/AIDS workshop, participants learnt what HIV actually is and sorted the myths from the facts. They also listened to personal stories and heard views and opinions from other students.

TEAM (Together Everyone Achieves More), are a project who tackle racism. They began by showing a moving video of public confrontations and scenes of bullying in front of unsuspecting people and filmed their responses. Very few intervened, and statistics show that less than 20% of bystanders will intervene despite nearly everyone not liking to watch incidents of bullying. Then, they showed another video from a Channel 4 documentary about a waiter discriminating against an interracial couple in a restaurant, all played by actors. The reactions of the customers were filmed. Lastly, they presented ways in which people can respond to discrimination, whether personally or witnessing it being inflicted upon others.

The fourth workshop available was faith and ageism. It spoke about what religion actually is; and had speakers with their own personal stories of working with those within unaccepting denominations. They then showed a PowerPoint presentation about age stereotypes and how many elderly have overcome these boundaries and achieved amazing things - such as, a 93 year old man who skydived in memory of his late wife.

The workshop on transgender worked on the opinions and feelings on being transgender and about being bullied. They discussed the emotional strain of not feeling comfortable as they were and consequences of their thoughts and other people's attitudes towards their situation.

The final workshop was on homophobia, provided by the Space Youth Project. They're an organisation based in Poole who provide support to young people struggling with their sexuality. They produced a role play where the typical homophobic bullying in school took place and allowed the audience to point out how the situation could be altered to stop this happening.

It was definitely an eye opening event, which helped the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors understand how diverse their local area actually is. It also brought about ideas on how improvements can be made in our own school to tackle discrimination and the other issues covered at the conference.

Caitlin Dyer - Year 10



On Wednesday 18 July the charity I-EAT in conjunction with the PSHE department ran an information evening for Year 10 parents on recognising the signs, symptoms, causes and triggers of an eating disorder.

Abbie Balachandra, who is trained in nutrition and dietetics and is also a recovered person, was an inspiring speaker; allowing staff and parents to explore this sensitive issue and understand how to care and support individuals through to recovery. The evening was very successful and parents felt able to ask questions in a supportive atmosphere, whilst also being able to speak to the I-EAT counsellor and pastoral staff on an individual basis.

There will be further information sharing evenings in the new academic year focussing on issues such as self harm and anxiety.

DA VINCI

The da Vinci scheme is a Year 8 and 9 initiative in which the students have access to taster extra-curricular activities designed to provide them with new experiences. The sessions, shared with Poole Grammar School students, take place every year during the final half term. There were well over 400 applications for courses!

The students are thoroughly enjoying the sessions which include such things as Irish Dancing; Introduction to Russian; Buddhist Philosophy, Yoga and Spanish Tapas Cooking, to name but a few.



KINGSTON LACY

Recently, our Year 10 GCSE artists visited the stunning grounds at the Kingston Lacy National Trust Estate in order to gather primary observations towards their current project on 'Landscapes'.

Girls were asked to experiment with a number of different media and techniques within their observational work including mono-printing, continuous line drawing, quick sketches and extended drawings and even to have a go at producing I-Pad drawings in the style of David Hockney on the school I-Pads!

The sun shone and the grounds were simply beautiful, some very creative and high quality work was produced and the girls' behaviour was exemplary, as always. A very productive and enjoyable day for all!



Linguatrivia

In March, 115 Year 7 girls took part in the national French Linguatrivia competition. Everyone who entered received a certificate and prize.

The top 3 in the year group were:

- 1st Elisabeth Sams-Dodd (80)**
- 2nd Eleanor Nicolas (67)**
- 3rd Lizzie Williams (64)**

All girls worked really hard to prepare for this competition and should be proud of their efforts.

CHARITY WEEK

Years 7 and 8 joined in the spirit of the KS3 Charity Week in May organising many fund-raising activities such as; cake sales, car washing, candy floss making and raffles.

Each form organised an activity during the week or for the Charity Fair on the Friday. Miss Sturdy found herself giving different lessons to her normal Art classes as she taught 7S how to wash a car!

Students worked hard with their fundraising for 3 charities. - Mind, Cancer Research and Make a Wish Foundation with an excellent £1247.16 being raised.

Jambo Jipya!

Jambo Jipya - the community school that Parkstone supports in Kenya - has had another successful year.

The Year 7 and 8 Discos in November and February, were very good fundraisers and enjoyed by all our students this year, as a valuable opportunity to socialise together. Assemblies to all year groups reminded students and raised their awareness of the charity.

Fundraising at the school has contributed to buildings and equipping science laboratories this year, which although somewhat less grand than Parkstone's, represent a massive achievement for this little school which started in two simple mud huts some eight years ago.

Money from "World Book Day" and another very successful "Smarties Saver Campaign" are to be sent out to the Project at the end of term for books, uniform and more Science equipment in preparation for the new school year 2014-15. In total some £2447 has been raised this academic year, including £621 from World Book Day, and a consignment of 20 football strips and balls which have kindly been donated and club shirts collected from students is to be flown out to Jambo Jipya during the Summer. As previously, it continues to be difficult to actually send goods because of the prohibitive costs involved, but the sentimental value and usage of this cargo will make it so worthwhile. If anyone has any business contacts or connections that might facilitate cheaper transportation we would be most grateful for any help!

GREENPOWER



Twelve students from Years 9 and 10 have been enthusiastically taking part in the Greenpower project and have now completed their first heat of races at Goodwood motor circuit. As with previous years we could not have been involved with this project without the help and dedication of the Engineers and Apprentices from Siemens. Without the work they have done the teams would not have two race-able cars today.

At Goodwood the two teams worked very well together on their first race day. It was a long day starting at 7:30am at school and finishing back at school at 7:00pm, but the students rallied to the end. At the end of this first race event the school's standings in the overall national line-up are as :

Speedwell covered 35.63 miles and lie in 18th place

Titan covered 28.8 miles and lie in joint 29th place (level with a team from the boys school).

It was also lovely to see the team from last year from PGS, Yabadabatwo, racing competitively have worked on their car themselves with no help from a sponsor Engineer.

The next race is in July at Merrifield and the teams will spend the weeks up to this adjusting their cars and on their racing technique.

Engineering Education Scheme



The Engineering Education Scheme is a nationally run scheme where teams of four students in Year 12 work with a sponsor company on a real life Engineering project set by the company. Parkstone's team - Poppy Cooper, Becky Kidd, Britany Maxted and Vivien Field - have now completed their project for the EES. They have been working with an Engineer from the RNLI on the project since the beginning of October.

The project brief involved evaluating the current autopilot system used for certain lifeboats, and then designing and building their own autopilot system, testing and comparing it to the existing system.

The girls have worked extremely hard, meeting every week. They have now successfully designed and built a prototype autopilot system and identified key areas and components that are causing the problems on the existing system used by the RNLI

The project has involved a residential two days at Southampton Solent University using their Engineering facilities, a trip to the RNLI and a final celebration and assessment day at the Bristol Network Rail training centre.

At the Celebration and Assessment day Parkstone's team was praised for its hard work, teamwork, presentation, project management skills, innovative design, being able to build a working prototype and being able to answer in depth and challenging technical questions about their project.

GEOGRAPHERS' CONFERENCE



Year 13 Geographers teamed up with fellow year 13 geography students at Canford school and poole grammar to do some revision with the former AQA chief examiner David Redfern .

He helped them with their preparations and essential skills needed in their forthcoming final exams.

David has been a question writer and has led the marking process for our A level exam so students very much appreciated his guidance and advice in the final weeks before they sat their exams

YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Parkstone students performed well at the 2014 Young Enterprise Dorset Company of the Year Awards held at JP Morgan, Bournemouth in May this year.

Students from Parkstone joined with students of other schools to form companies and gain invaluable life experiences by selling their products and services.

Dorset Company of the Year 2014
Team Cube : Parkstone Grammar /Glenmoor / Lytchett Minster - 2nd place

Trade Stand of The Year Award Winners

Team Zephyr : Poole High School / Parkstone Grammar School

Presentation of the Year Award Winners

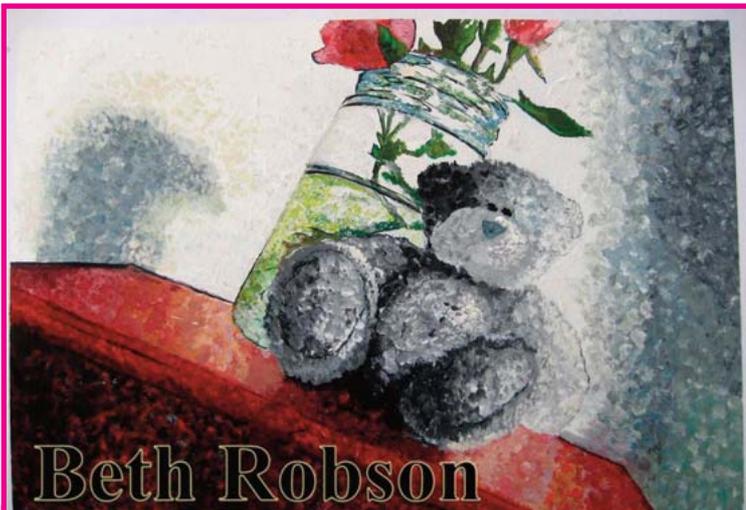
Team Zephyr : Poole High School / Parkstone Grammar School



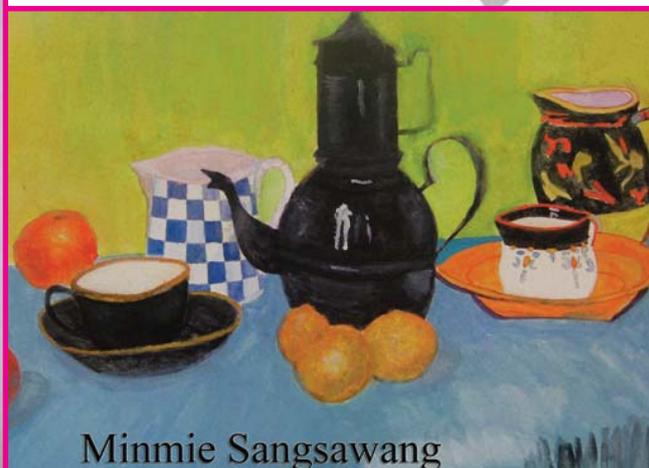
ARTWORK

We are proud to show a further display of our students' work.

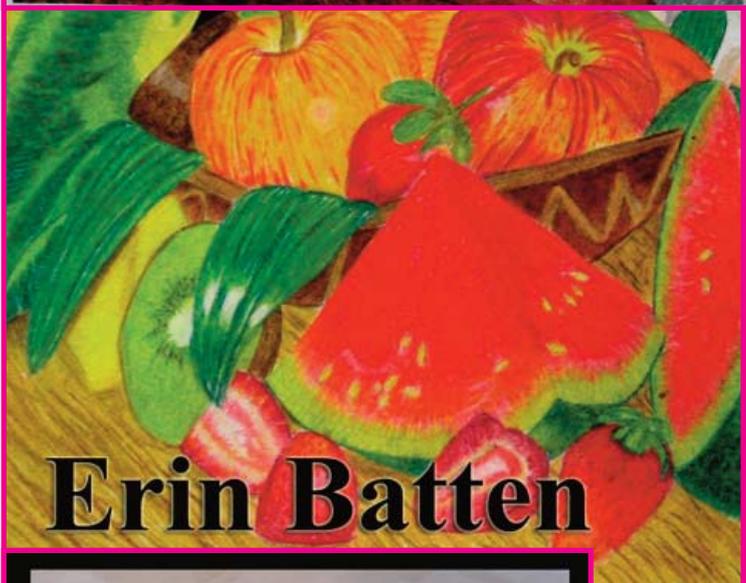
Students' work can be viewed on our website - go to the Subject tab and drag down to "Art".



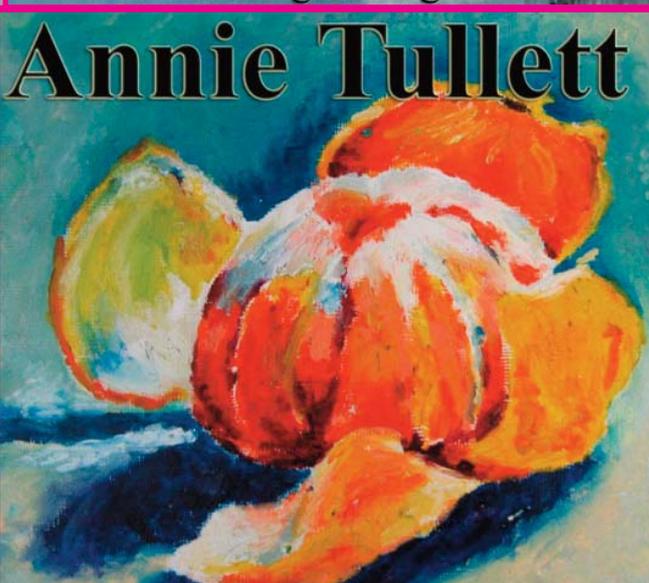
Beth Robson



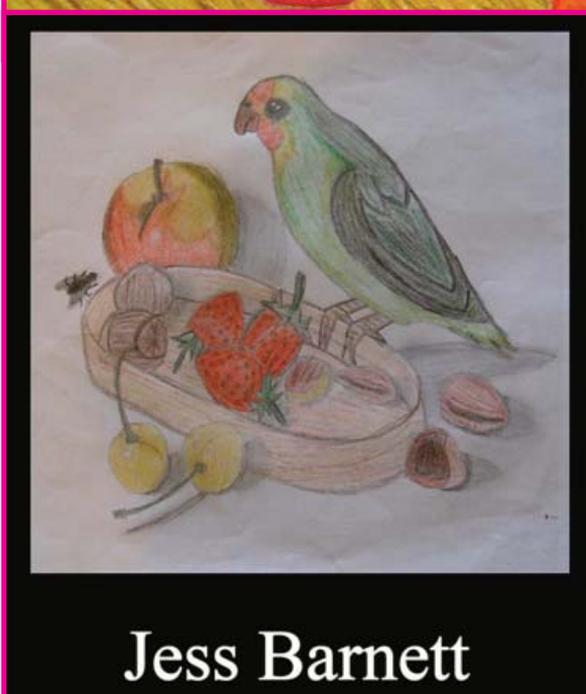
Minmie Sangsawang



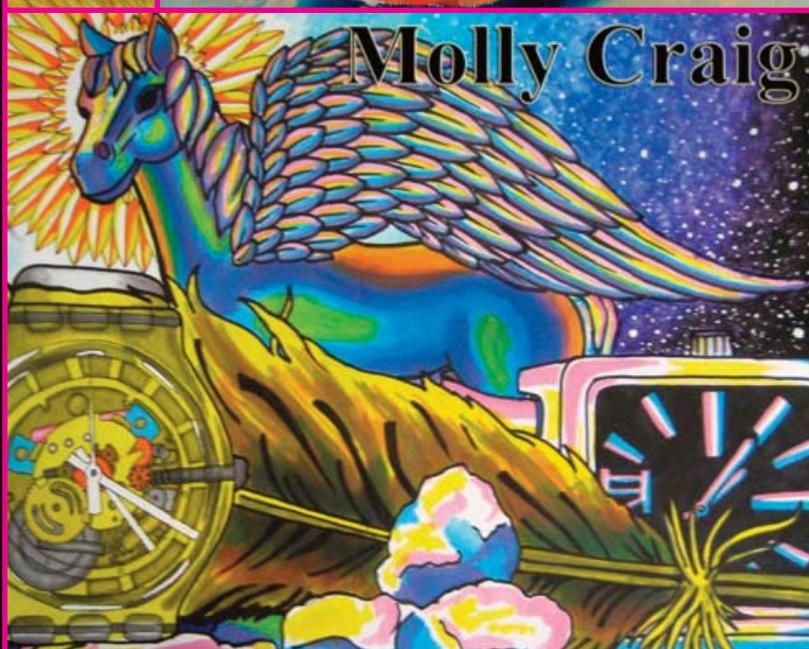
Erin Batten



Annie Tullett



Jess Barnett



Molly Craig

Sport

SPORTS HEATS

Over three days in June students from Years 7, 8 and 9 have taken part in sports heats in preparation for the finals on Sports Day. The events ran smoothly and students should be commended for their commitment and enthusiasm. The Sports Leaders were exceptional and really contributed to the success of each day.

"Today was a fun-filled day as we participated in lots of sports activities. All the supports and helpers were very nice and helped you a lot with pushing yourself. I enjoyed it very much"

Charlotte Gwillim, Year 7

SKI 2014

On the first week of the Easter holidays, a group of Year 10s and 12s went on the school's annual ski trip. This year we went to Alpe d'Huez, France.

After a five hour flight delay and enduring a trip up the French Alps with 21 hairpin bends, we arrived worn out and in need of a good night's sleep.

the next day we started our first of five days skiing, six hours a day - two more than all other schools!

At the end of each day we did a variety of activities including ice skating, bum boarding, a ropes course and a quiz.

Overall it was a great experience and I'd recommend it to anyone considering participating in future years - and you don't have to be an experienced skier!



Track & Field Cup



The **Junior Athletics** team travelled to Millfield in June to take part in the South West regional A finals. Competition was very tough, but the athletes performed exceptionally well gaining 366 points, an improvement of 44 points from the previous round, and consequently achieved a wonderful 3rd place.

Unfortunately though it was not quite enough to make it through to the National Final. However this high score puts the team in the top 20 in the country!

The **Intermediate Athletics** team travelled to Yeovil and competed in the South West regional B Final. With some excellent performances the team managed to attain 3rd place.

Thanks go to team managers, Mrs Salt, Miss Henderson, Miss Bird and Mrs Spall for their wonderful support.

CRICKET



Congratulations go to the U15 Cricket team following a wonderful performance at the Hardball Cricket Festival held at Canford School in June.

It was a hard competition but the team played well eventually winning the tournament after beating Canford School in a tough final. The team also became winners of the Charlotte Edwards Trophy - a prestigious honour.



SPORTS DAY

Friday 11 July 2014

ALL WELCOME

10.15am - Athletes Parade
10.30 am - Events Commence
until 3.15pm



Students from Year 9 Rounders and Year 7 Cricket took part in the Dorset Schools Games at Bryanston School in July.

Both teams were outstanding in their performance. The Year 9 Rounders team won all games in their section and went through to the semi finals and again were successful. The final was a real nailbiter at the end of the innings, the scores were level. A further 9 balls were given to each team and BSG pipped us at the post.

The Cricket team had an extraordinary tournament with some great victories including beating the eventual winners, but picked up a Bronze medal on the day.

The Sports Leaders were a huge asset to this event. They should be commended for their efficiency. They were true ambassadors for sport.

Dancers from Parkstone were also part of the The Games, on stage dancing as part of the Opening Ceremony.

Elsewhere in the Dorset School Games, students from Years 7 and 8 competed extremely well in the Sailing, which was held at Poole Park. The team gained 2nd place overall.