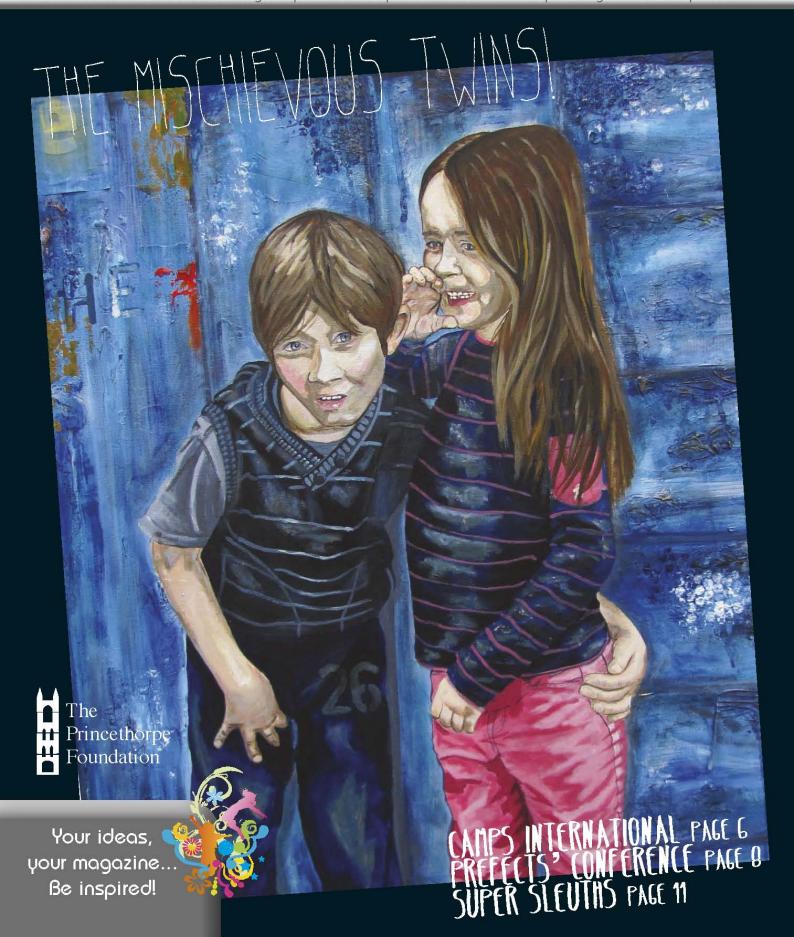


ISSUE 10 | October 2012 | Showcasing exceptional work by students from Princethorpe College and Crackley Hall School



...to issue 10 of The Pinnacle showcasing outstanding achievement by students across the Princethorpe Foundation.

In the pages that follow we celebrate the sporting and academic achievements of our all students from Sport and Art to History and Photography. The Minnacle pages are equally impressive with tremendous examples of the high achievement of Crackley Hall pupils. Read all about the Foundation's fabulous forensics event, dazzling drama performances, terrific tennis and much much more.

We welcome new Lower Sixth members to The Pinnacle editorial team (Hannah van Wyk, Beth Plant and Kate Whitfield) to join our trusty Upper Sixth crew (Alice Varah, Rhiannon Edwards, Jess Doyle and Chris Bond). Thank you to all of them for their continued hard work each week.

Thank you to Emma Litterick for her photography and press releases, Catriona Hardwick for sending through material from Crackley Hall, as well as continued support from Marketing Manager Melanie Butler.

As usual The Pinnacle will be here to celebrate outstanding work, so keep sending in articles and news of success! We value every student's contribution. E-mail your work to: pinnacle@ princethorpe.co.uk

BE INSPIRED!

EN PASCOE-WILLIAMS
IRDINATOR OF PROVISION FOR THE MOST ABLE

Our superb front cover design this issue was produced by last year's Upper Sixth student Rosie Foden.

This is her final piece for the A2 examination: Combinations and Alliances, influenced by the work of Norman Rockwell and Joan Eardley. In this piece Rosie tries to capture the innocence of childhood combined with the

'rough and tumble' of the playground

The 'alliance' being that of The Mischievous Twins!



Quodlibet, by Lower Sixth Art student Daisy Donaldson, roughly translates as 'a little of what you like' and is a form of Trompe-I'æil. Here Daisy has painted a collection of objects which are so realistic you want to reach and pick them up off the plate!

In his final A2 examination piece, Upper Sixth Art student Olly Brown shifts between darkness and shadowy light.

Olly's photograph is an image taken from his final piece Orpheus, a book containing images set to poetry.

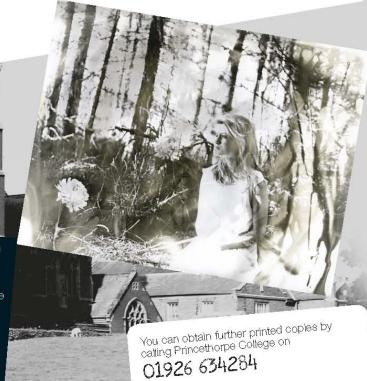
In the book he has experimented with various effects in the darkroom, including using thirty-year old photographic paper. All photographs were produced in the darkroom.



Entries Please!

All entries for The Pinnacle will be awarded the following House Points:

1st Place: 200 points 2nd Place: 150 points **3rd Place:** 100 points All entries: 50 points Get contributing!



or by e-mailing

pinnacle@princethorpe.co.uk

Science and technology goes bang

Last term Princethorpe students visited the Big Bang Fair at the NEC, a three day event to promote Science and Technology. It was a huge event supported by universities, schools and industry and attracted students from all over the country. The headline attraction were the presenters from the BBC's popular show

On arrival we all assembled at the theatre to see the show, it was very exciting, with lots of bangs and experiments. All students really enjoyed this experience.

Bang Goes The Theory.

The fair was then the attraction for the rest of the day, with many activities to appeal to every one. Year 7 student Katie MacIntyre enjoyed collecting pompoms, visiting stands and was amazed at the size of it, declaring it to be "massive!" Whilst fellow Year 7 student Charlotte Ecclestone said, "I really enjoyed the day, I learnt that fruit floats and that chemistry can be fun."

Students enjoyed making peanut butter, ice-cream and running on custard. For the more scientific, they participated in flying penguins, finding out about nuclear energy, firing dry ice, and how thermal

energy, firing dry ice, and how thermal imaging cameras work. The highlight for Year 7 student William McGinlay was visiting the car stands,

Year 7 student Eleanor Ramsay was very impressed by the amount of things to do and all the experiments, and Thomas Clayton has expressed an interest to have more trips like this.

especially Jaguar and Land Rover.

Emma Gillespie running through custard

EmilyStorekKnightand the biggest collection of pompoms

Charlotte Brown,

driving with blurred



Marcus Sellars, experiencing driving with cataracts.







Talented endurance runner Anastasia Bessey is looking forward to her next challenge having competed in her first half marathon and 10 mile road race just weeks apart. The fifteen year old from Snitterfield has set up her own training programme involving one long run each week of between 10-13 miles plus further speed and conditioning sessions out on the road.

Annie competed in the infamous Cotswold Hilly 100 mile relay race in May undertaking the first leg. Her 10 miles kicked off at 6am a time when most teenagers are still in bed. Just 81 minutes later and she handed over to the second runner.

On June 16th despite having been unwell with a stomach bug she ran and completed her first half marathon. The Humph Hilly Half at Bourton-on-the-Water was a challenging race with some quite breathtaking elevations but the steely Year 10 athlete finished in 1 hour 53 minutes, a highly commendable debut time.

When asked what makes her undertake these marathon feats of endurance she confesses,

'I think I am becoming a bit obsessed. I like the feeling it gives you and I like seeing myself / get faster. I ran the sport relief 10k in February and I just kept going from there.'

Anastasia has other races planned for the year and we will eagerly keep an eye on her progress.



the humph's hilly holf bourton on the water







local landscape at Princethorpe College.



Emily Storek Knight of More House whose photo Dark Countryside presents a provocative image of the countryside that encourages concern for the

THE CHALLENGES OF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING

During the Easter holidays last year I went to Wolverhampton University on a Smallpeice Trust course in Engineering and Construction, after seeing an article and link on *The Flagpole*. The four day residential course attracted Year 9s from many schools all over the country.



After an introductory talk we were put into our teams with whom we would work for the rest of the week. Each team consisted of five members and there were nineteen teams in total.

All the teams were set two different competitions, building a wind turbine to power a generator and a caisson (a portable dam).

The wind turbine was built out of wooden 3mm dowels and lots of hot melt glue. The dams were constructed of 3mm balsa wood planks in a maximum of two layers with 10mm bolster wood beams to support the planks. The dam design had to hold half a ton of water.

The wind turbines were tested using an electric fan, each turbine had to be at least 1 meter tall, and connected to small dynamo; the success of the design was measured by recording the amount of electricity generated. The higher turbine tower then the faster fan would be set. Our turbine recorded 1.91volts, whilst others recorded from 0.45volts to 0.98volts. Our team had developed the most efficient turbine.

For the dam exercise, a team's success was determined by measuring the quantity of water held against the cost of the materials used for its construction. The more water held the more you could earn, offsetting the cost of materials purchased needed to build the dam.

During the testing process two people had to sit behind the dam so if the dam failed they would get very wet. Our team's dam design performed very well, holding water until it overflowed, whilst others barely reached half way before their dam collapsed, needless to say our dam won this competition too.

Babcook, EON energy and many others, sponsored the course, and each gave lectures into what they do as companies in Civil Engineering. It gave me an invaluable insight into the world and the challenges of construction engineering. It was a great experience.

By Luke Marsden (now Yr 10)

"Our team's dam design performed very well, holding water until it overflowed"



Outside the Box

Last Spring, Michael Spelman, Tori Jones, Alistair Robinson and I took part in the regional UKMT Team Maths Challenge Finals.

was held at Rugby High School, and on arrival they gave us some warm-up questions. The questions were designed not only to test your mathematical ability, but to make you think outside the box. After this there were four rounds, the first round was a booklet of questions which we were given to work on as a group; we split this booklet up and worked on a question individually, putting any questions we weren't sure on in the middle for another person to have a go at.

The second round was a cross number, which we had to work at in sub-teams; we split our group into boys vs. girls. This round was basically a crossword but with numbers, most of the questions required another answer to reach the latest

The third round was the head to head round, we were again split into two sub teams and were given a card with a question on and the answer to this question would be the missing key to the next.

The fourth round was the relay, which required two sub teams with one on the other side of the room. The sub teams took it in turns to answer a question, the questions required a lot of thought but you were under a lot of pressure as it

was a race to finish. This round was the funniest to watch as everyone looked very stressed out and were united Kingdom Mathematics Trust running around the room.

Together at the beginning we decided

our aim was simply not to come last and to enjoy ourselves, which we accomplished; we came 11th out of the 14 teams. At the end we found out that Princethorpe could hold an event similar for its feeder primary schools. We all think this would be a fantastic idea!

Ru Mia Westhuru (Now Year 10)

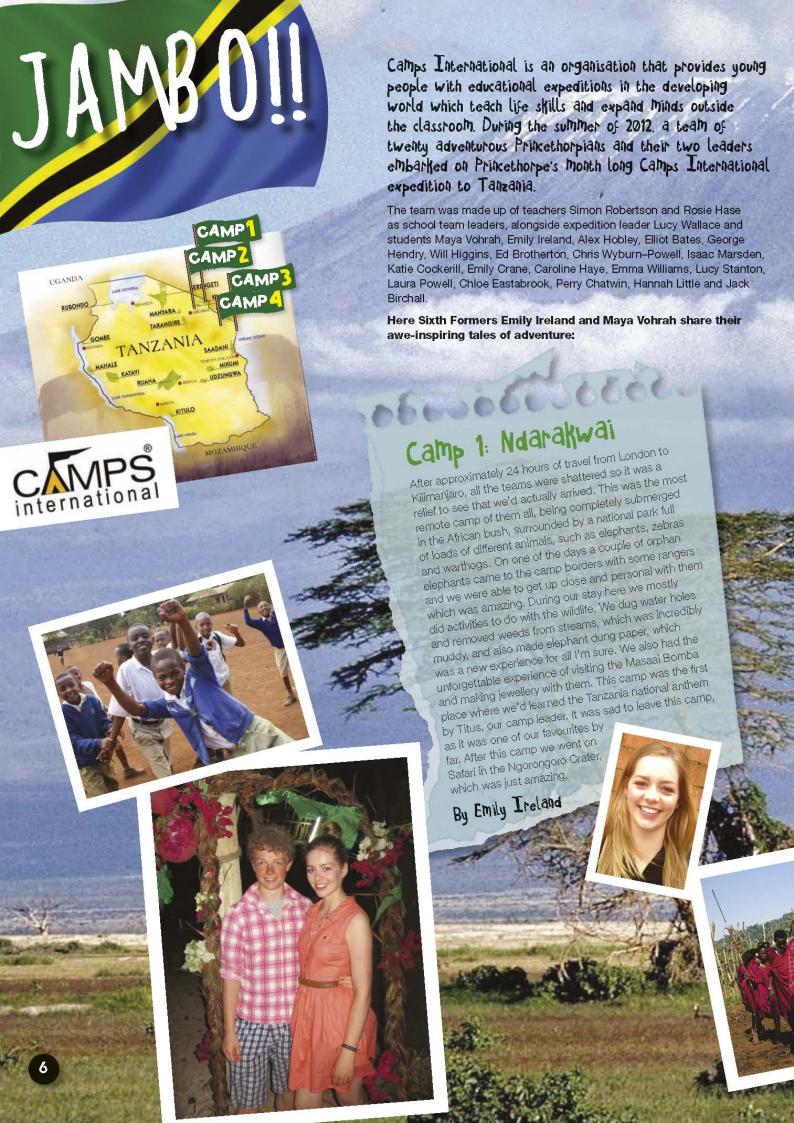
Project Success!



The Pinnacle has eagerly followed the journey of last year's Upper Sixth students Daniel Leung, Jacob Stone, Sarah Boraston and Catherine Boraston as they engaged in the Extended Project Qualification. Well, this summer they finally received their results and what stunning results they were! All four achieved A* with Daniel Leung accomplishing 100%. Very well done indeed and good luck for the undergraduate level study on which you are about to embark!







06006666666 Camp 2: Meru

This camp was set in a village environment, with a school where we did most of our voluntary work. On the afternoon of arrival we were taken down to the river to wash our clothes with the African women. Lots of the school children were down there too so we got to know them a bit. During our stay we built a veranda for the school, which was tiring but rewarding at the same time, Some got to go and teach the children and help with their meals, it was a rather short stay as we had to prepare for our trek up Camp Meru but still a very enjoyable one.

By Emily Ireland



Camp 3: Tanga

After a rest and relaxtion day at camp Mbokomu we headed to Camp Tanga. This camp was so beautiful; we were next to the sea and it was wonderfully idyllic. We did a range of activities at this camp including; seaweed farming, cooking, building mud walls for one of the camp worker's mother, cementing and scraping floors of the local school and weaving tiles for locals' houses. The lovely dressmaker, Colletta made clothes for various members of the group and all the members of staff were warm and friendly people, as were many of the locals. A few of us had the pleasure of teaching some of the locals

rewarding experience. Some of us learnt lessons about sun protection the hard way on our rest and relaxation day there, but overall it was simply a fabulous week spent at a fabulous camp.

By Maya Vohrah

0660066666 Camp 4: Mbokomu

Our final camp was a seven-hour drive away from Camp Tanga but definitely worth the drive, We did all of our work at the school and the work mainly consisted of carpentry. The carpentry was a rewarding activity because we could see the results of our efforts. Many benches were produced as a result of our teamwork. A few of us taught some of the children in the school and we were given the task of teaching reflexive pronouns. This was challenging but the look on their faces when they understood made all of us "teachers" smile. All too quickly our journey ended. I believe that everyone enjoyed the trip. Living with the same group of people for a month was surprisingly enjoyable. We began to see people's true colours and we all made new friendships or made old friendships stronger,

By Maya Vohrah









Every year the Society of Heads holds a Senior Prefects' Conference. This year the three day conference was held at Rishworth School in West Yorkshire and Megan Bailey and I had the pleasure of being invited to attend.

The conference began on Tuesday 21st August and at 12.30, after a three hour drive, we arrived. We were fairly nervous! We shouldn't have been, however; almost immediately we were greeted by Claire Rhodes, the course director and given our groups and rooms. We then headed out to find our rooms. I arrived at mine to meet my roommate, Louis, the Deputy Head Boy at Cokethorpe School in Oxfordshire.

After this we went downstairs to an introductory talk from various

staff and then into a practical session on team building and leadership. We quickly bonded as a team and found that we worked quite well together, completing all tasks ably and efficiently.

After several more lectures we went to the courtyard and enjoyed a BBQ and relaxed for a while. Not for too long though as at 8pm we were back in the lecture hall! After a brief talk on public speaking we were all sent away with the task of writing a speech introducing new

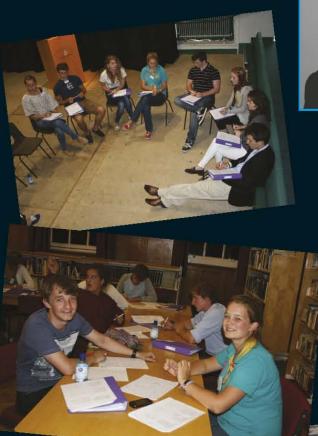
Year 7s to the school. The next morning we

performed these to the rest of the group and were given both positive and negative criticism on our performance, as well as being asked to pick up on the pros and cons of the other pairs.

Megan and I then each opted for a different activity in the next section. She chose "Organising 'big' events" and I chose the session on "Counselling techniques and listening skills". Working in pairs we were asked to complete a series of tasks

heavily relying on communication skills and trust.





After lunch, we did a task called 'Make my day,' where we were given 3 post-it notes, and on each of them we had to write something nice about someone we had met over the course, and then go and stick rit on them. It was really lovely to receive these from people, as we had only known them for a day. After this we had to choose whether to go to a talk on organising big events or counselling. To get the best out of the course Chris and I decided to split up, so he went to the counselling talk and I went to the big events talk. It was a really interesting session in which we had to plan a pretend end of year ball in groups. We had to work out costing and the running

Later in the day, we had a wine tasting session. This was really fun as it was a chance to relax with all the people we had met. We had four different wines and different descriptions which we had to match up. I was amazed to win one of rounds and won a bag of Wine Gums.

of the event. I found this particularly interesting to find out ideas

for our own prom at the end of this year.



After the wine tasting, we attended a talk called 'The Idiots Guide to Etiquette.' We were talked through the proceedings of a formal dinner which we were going to in the evening. Our course leader, Andrew, explained who our honoured guests were going to be and also who would be doing the toasts and the vote of thanks after the dinner

We had two hours in the evening to relax and get ready for the dinner. In this time we spent some time in the games room with some of the friends we had made. We then went off to get ready!

Before the dinner, we had a champagne reception in the quad, where we had lots of photos taken, everyone looked very smart and it felt very grown up to be there!

The table plan was set out so that we were with completely different people to who we had been in groups with in the previous activities, which meant that we got another chance to meet new people. The food was lovely and it was a really fun

After the dinner, we all went back to the student bar where we had more relaxation time. Then we all said goodnight after a wonderful evening.

In the morning we had breakfast and then all went over to the sports hall for our final activity. We were put back into our groups, and two of us had to go outside to collect clues from around the school. Back inside, the rest of the team were told that we were awaiting the arrival of the mayor of 'Prefectsville.' So we had to make a throne, crown, uniforms for the guards

"I GAINED A LOT FROM THIS COURSE, PARTICULARLY WORKING ON PUBLIC SPEAKING, AND WITH NEW PEOPLE"

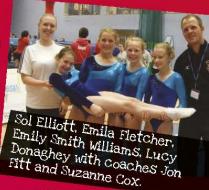
and a gift with whatever materials we could find. It was a really fun game which developed teamwork within the group. It was a brilliant way to end the course!

Finally, we collected our belongings, said goodbye to the new friends we had made and left Yorkshire.

I gained a lot from this course, particularly working on public speaking, and developing confidence with new people. I would definitely recommend this course for next year's

Terrific Trampolining

A talented quartet of **Princethorpe College** trampolinists have won gold in the Warwickshire Youth Games held at Warwick University on 4 July. The Uf



After qualifying in our last competition at Avon Valley School we were through to the final round at Warwick University. It was double the size of our last competition and we were all extremely nervous! However we did our set routines first, so they called our name and we had to sit on the trampoline and wait for the judges to be ready, then we were allowed to start. At the end of our first routine we were coming second by O.S. We then went on to do our voluntary routines and we all did really well. Once I had done mine I thought I had probably come second, but when I went to look. I was first! I couldn't believe it! I was so happy! Our team was also ranked first and were in the lead by a massive amount of 2.4, which was amozing. Thank you to Mr. Fitt for being such

a fantastic coach and encouraging us all. It was great that our team did so well and I can't wait for next year and hopefully more competitions. It was a great finish to a great year

By Lucy Donaghey



Princethorpe College sprint star Patrick Mills took gold in the 400 metre hurdles at the National Young Athletes League held at Manchester's Sports City arena on September 3rd.

The sixteen year old from Rugby was delighted with his win in 57.53. "I really wanted to get the gold." He explained, "I'm very competitive and I just wanted to win. The time wasn't that quick for me but I was pleased to have come away with top podium position."

Princethorpe College Director of Sport Mr Neil McCollin praised Paddy's

"Paddy is an outstanding sportsman. He came 6th earlier in the season in

Fellow College athlete Adam Shaw, 15, also took two gold medals in the NYAL in the B category of the long jump and 80 metre hurdle



GRADE A' LOOKS LIKE?!

Upper Sixth English student Rhiannon Edwards achieved 120/120 in her Unit 1 English Literature paper at AS Level. Here is a taster of her superb 'A' grade analytical work on Miller's Death of a Salesman:

In Miller's 'Death of a Salesman', is Willy Loman's death the death of a tragic hero, or is his death Merely the pathetic demise of a small man?

It can be argued that Willy Loman in Miller's Death of a Salesman is not a tragic hero as he does not fulfil all of the traditional conventions put forward by Aristotle in Poetics. However, the essence of tragedy is unchanged; Willy still has hamartia, there is an element of peripeteia and a catharsis emerges. We as an audience feel pity and frustration as we watch external driving forces such as his family situation and capitalism distorting and shaping Willy's perception of reality. Miller's play is a modern domestic tragedy and Willy is a dramatic construct to represent man's universal dilemma of tragedy. As a character he creates pathos, but this isn't enough for us to simply label him as a pathetic small man. Surely it is Miller's wish for us to engage with him on a deeper, more tradic level.

PULITER PRINTER IN A SAIGSMAN

rom the moment the curtain opens, the tragic nevitability of Willy's fate is mirrored in the set. The "surrounding area shows an angry glow of orange" in stark contrast to the "blue light... on the house". This symbolises how vulnerable Willy is to the "towering angular shapes" that alienate and oppress him. It also reveals the precarious nature of Willy's aspirations as he pitifully fights for a place in the ever-changing and merciless business world. As soon as Willy comes on stage his "exhaustion is apparent", presenting him as a fallible small man. He is dog tired, an exhausted salesman, nothing like a classical tragic protagonist. His wife's "trepidation" and question; "you didn't smash the car, did you?" in addition to her maternal fussing; "Should I get you an aspirin? It'll soothe you" reflects the protagonist's

precarious mental state.

Willy perceives no inconsistency in his statements, for example when Linda and Willy are discussing Biff. At first Willy seems angry towards Biff's choices, exclaiming that, "Biff is a lazy bum!" But within seconds, Willy totally changes his opinion. He praises Biff, stating that "there's one thing about Biff - he's not lazy!" This type of linguistic inconsistency and rapid change in disposition shows how pathetic Willy really is. His lapses in memory also put him in physical danger; "I absolutely forgot I was driving", despite Linda ominously saying "The mind is what counts dear". The image of the "Low-man" is reiterated through the bedroom banter of his sons who reveal that Willy's

Even his wife refers to him as an "old dog" establishing for the audience that this will be nothing more than the demise of a pathetic small town salesman who

To read more, please visit The Pinnacle under News on th college's website.



Diary of a Chamberlain

Year 8 student **Lily Blunsom Washbrook** did some super work in her first year here at Princethorpe last year. Here are some diary extracts she wrote for her History Castles Project for which she received an outstanding grade. Excellent work Lily!

July 24th 1170 Dear Diary,

My name is Anne. I am 16 years old and I work as a chamberlain for the Baron and his wife of Kenilworth Castle. Today was my birthday and, quess what, I got you as a present! The mystery is: who gave you to me? The reason I don't know is because I just found you on my pillow in the morning. I have narrowed it down to a few people who knew when my birthday was and could get into my chambers I will tell you next time. Got to go and clean the smelly Baron's room now. Bye!!!!

Intrigued

July 25th 1770 Dear Diary,

Today I accidently started a 'small' fire in the hay barn! Thank Goodness nobody knows that it was me because if they did, then I would definitely be out of life, let alone a job! Anyway let's get to those names; there is Matron Dolby, the Baron (but he wouldn't have remembered my birthday), Sue and Bill. To be honest though, those people (all except the Baron) don't have a penny or a minute to

spare, even though they knew it was my birthday. Hay ho, another mystery! I

love it!!
Thoughtful

By Lily Blunson Washbrook (Now in Y8)

#Minnacle





If you ever held the tiniest thought about Science being all stuffy and dull with endless facts, equations and specimen jars then think again! A terrible crime was committed on the eve of June 13th at Princethorpe College. A body was found in one of the old porch ways near the Science labs. The murderer had left several incriminating clues behind so it was only a matter of time before Super Sleuths Junior 5 came to sort things out.

Equipped with their own Forensic I.D badges the group were quickly spilt into teams and given the challenge of finding the clues and evaluating who could have been the villain, what was the motive and how did the victim befall such a terrible demise??

Princethorpe labs were ablaze with activity with eager forensic scientists dressed up in protective hats, shoes, masks and headwear to prevent any contamination of the crime scenes whilst they checked facts and drew conclusions.

The super sleuths collected fingerprints, had a bash a some serious code cracking, examined fine threads of hair and fabric under the miscroscope, collected and cast footprints, photographed the evidence, interviewed suspects and used chromatography to get to the bottom of this heinous crime.

And the verdict? Well ask them for yourselves. Rumour has it, it was Mr Owen who committed the crime and all for the princely sum of £10,000 following the theft of Miss Bishop's precious mini donkey!

What a fabulous buzz this Forensics Morning created amongst our young learners. Thanks go to the brilliant Sixth Form Biologists who assisted the teams and also to Miss Faye Roberts and Miss Kate Renshaw for masterminding the whole Foundation event.



for joy following the victory of Britain's Andy Murray in the USA Open. The eager quartet, who are all members of

Kenilworth Tennis and Squash Club, are keen to follow in Murray's footsteps. Sisters Amy and Lucy Gribben are both Kenilworth Tennis Club

Age Champions with younger sister Lucy, 8, having recently won the Warwickshire County title. Her skills and determination have impressed talent spotters and the youngster from Weston under Wetherley has been invited to attend two Regional Development Camps at Loughborough University later this Autumn.

Year 3 duo Barney Holton and Madoc Williams have also had their potential in the game recognised. As team members of Kenilworth's mini squad they are on track to up their game whilst playing 3rd team doubles and singles matches every month.

Crackley Hall Headmaster Mr Robert Duigan was full of praise for the young athletes' achievements.

"It is wonderful for our pupils to be able to see how hard work and commitment pays off on the sports field. To be County Champion already at the age of eight is a formidable achievement which will no doubt inspire many others in the school to aspire to be the best they can."

lmage shows back row left Lucy Gribben, Amy Gribben. Front row left Barney Holton and Madoc Williams.



Thirty three pupils from Crackley Hall School took part in the annual Leamington Spa Drama Festival held on Saturday June 30th. Performers from Juniors 2-5 enjoyed reciting and reading verse and prose before an invited adjudicator.

A total of seven first places were awarded to: Sebastian Dibb for Humorous Verse U9, Sonny Hardwick Verse and Prose U7, Angela Hill Verse and Prose 9-11, Sam McKosker New Prepared Reading U11, Lucy Gribben and Mairaed Kelly Verse for Two U9, Caitlin Parris

and Amy Gribben Verse for Two U11. With eight other performances gaining a second or third place, Crackley Hall drama teacher Mrs Monique Preston was thrilled with the results.

In addition to these fine results Crackley Hall received the news that 44 out of the 75 candidates who recently took examinations in LAMDA (London Academy for Music and Dramatic Arts) received the top award of Distinction for their efforts.









St Joseph's Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 2FT Tel: 01926 514444 E-mail: post@crackleyhall.co.uk



