

the PARK

the Leighton Park School termly newsletter

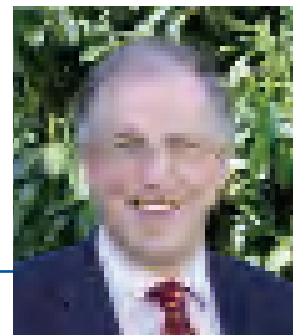
March 2006



Leighton Park School

www.leightonpark.reading.sch.uk

HEADLINES



Dear Friends,

Annually, in this term, the apparent miracle occurs. Only a few weeks ago, the Park was covered by a fall of snow that left it looking almost magical and enchanting, a setting for any one of those tales that enhance childhood, and indeed adulthood too.

Yet as I write, it is transformed again, as the first white and purple crocus blooms appeared, the daffodils popped up and the whole Park assumed the quite different springtime appearance of nature at its most gracious and promising. Quite a setting for a school.

Yet a school it is, and this term at LP was as full and fulfilling as usual. Educational experience continues to be enriching outside the classroom as well as in it, with destinations from Hadrian's Wall (for the Sixth Form Ancient Historians) to Nantes and Hamburg (for the Year 9 and 10 exchanges). Other highlights include Lower Sixth work experience, the National Indoor Hockey Championships at Birmingham,

Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions, trips to "Stomp" and "Miss Saigon": the list could go on. In the Easter holidays, the ski trip will be off to the USA, and the A level Art students to Italy. It all adds up to a rich experience.

A particular highlight of the term was the concert organised by Olivia Wheeler-Robinson (Year 11) raising awareness of Cystic Fibrosis. With the flair of a natural impresario, Olivia took on the publicity and concert management, inspiring her friends to perform, in front of a large and enthusiastic audience.

Plans continue for the opening of the new Sixth Form Centre, in Townson House, in September. In the meantime, students have enjoyed the first formal dinners that are to be a regular part of the annual social programme. This has also included an ice-skating trip in which Marjory Morris nobly led from the front (when not from the ice). Mandarin Chinese will appear on the Sixth Form curriculum in September as part of

the new "LiteBytes" programme, designed to offer increased breadth and enhancement to study at that level.

Our Sunday Evening speakers have covered a range of significant issues: Stephen Shashoua from the Three Faiths Forum spoke of the urgent need for dialogue between the world's religions (a theme that Quakers have championed for centuries); Peter Anwyl, chairman of a prison board of governors, spoke about the deep flaws of our present custodial system (another issue to which Quakers are not strangers).

I hope you enjoy reading The Park, a glimpse of what has been happening here this term. With the roof-raising sounds of the House Music Competition still reverberating, we approach the end of term. Have a good holiday.

John Dunston
Head

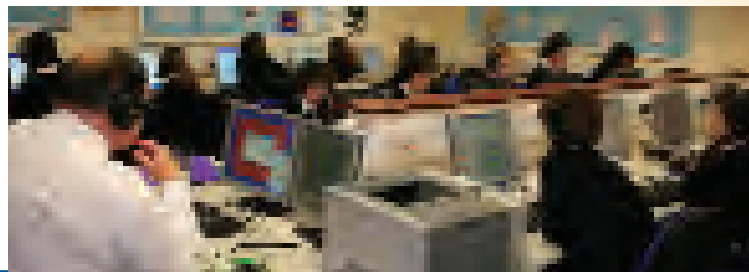
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Forthcoming Dates

For details of other events, please visit www.leightonpark.reading.sch.uk

Monday 24th April 6.15pm	Boarders return
Tuesday 25th April 8.20am	Term starts
Monday 1st May	Normal school day
Wednesday 3rd May 7.15pm	Strings Concert
Saturday-Sunday 6th/7th May	Exeat weekend
Tuesday 9th May	Upper Sixth Formal Dinner
Wednesday 10th May 7.15pm	Soloists Concert
Friday 12th May	Senior Sports Day
Sunday 14th May	Evening Meeting
Wednesday 17th May 7.15pm	Ensembles Concert
Friday 19th May 3.00pm	U6th Leavers' Collect, followed by afternoon tea
Friday 26th May 4.15	Long Leave starts
	Upper Sixth Ball
Sunday 4th June 6.15pm	Boarders return
Monday 19th June	Fryer Athletics Championships
Saturday June 24th 6.30-9.00pm	Music for a Summer's Evening
Saturday 1st July 10.00am-2.00pm	Fryer Festival
Monday 3rd -Friday 7th July	Year 11 New Horizons Week
Friday 7th July 12.15pm	End of term



Multi-Media language centre opens... *Developments*

Francoise Wilson, Head of Languages writes: A brand new Multi-media Language laboratory with twenty eight computers opened in the autumn term. An impressive range of language learning activities is now available to enhance the teaching of languages, including Latin.

The new lab enables teachers to use written, audio and video resources in their lessons, including material from the internet. Pupils can work at their own pace, while benefiting from individual support from the teacher. Outside lessons, the Sixth Form have easy access to foreign language radio and television, newspapers and web based materials.



It is hardly surprising that it is proving extremely popular with pupils and also teachers, who are all discovering the many features of this amazing new technology.

Another landmark in the teaching of Languages at LP is the introduction of Mandarin. **John Dunston** explains: From September 2006 all Sixth Formers will have the chance to study the language initially at AS level, to complement their other A level subjects.

With the economic growth of China, Mandarin speakers will have a competitive edge in years to come. But just as importantly, it will introduce students to a completely different concept: a language based on four tones, where intonation can change meaning dramatically. Whether or not they learn to write in Chinese, that experience alone will give them a much greater awareness of another major culture. Once that is mastered, the grammar is much simpler, despite the thousands of characters that represent the Chinese "alphabet". In addition, it will open up new horizons of cultural experience, fostered by a major Sixth Form tour to China in October 2006. And learning to speak the language of the Chinese students at Leighton Park will also encourage greater communication across the different backgrounds, as preparation for life in a multi-national world.

Leightonpark.com goes live...

We are delighted that the new LP website is imminently going 'live' at **www.leightonpark.com**. We have partnered with local company, DVA, to develop a fresh, modern design to complement the new prospectus, which is now available. The site brings together the school community and LP Enterprises providing the wider community with a more coherent impression of LP.

We hope you will enjoy browsing the new site during the Easter break for the most recent news - why not bookmark it and regularly browse the latest news. The next steps in the development of the website will be

to create an area with secure log-ins so that LP parents can have access to a range of additional information on-line, including some items currently included in the half-termly mailings. We will keep you informed of progress.

We are extremely grateful to the many parents, pupils and staff who have helped in the redevelopment of the website and prospectus by completing questionnaires, and passing on suggestions and comments. Their insights and perspectives have proved to be invaluable.

Work will be starting soon on the new Sixth Form centre. This new resource, located in Townson House, will incorporate study and leisure facilities, a fully fitted kitchen in which the Sixth Form will be able to prepare meals and snacks, ICT facilities, and space for discussions and tutorials. Consultation (and even perhaps a competition) to find the right name for the new centre will be launched soon.

We are also now looking at plans for the new classroom block to be situated between Peckover and Townson, for which we hope building work begin in September. It will initially be occupied by the music department (see below), but its eventual purpose will be as a new home for the maths department, which is expecting to move there in January 2008.

The classroom block should be finished by Easter 2007, and will house the music department while that itself is transformed and expanded in size. The Music School has remained virtually unchanged since it was built, together with the Hall, in 1972, since when the school has grown considerably, and there is an urgent need for more classroom, practice and performance space. Further details of the new music school will follow in due course.

On the pastoral side, the conversion of Field to become co-educational in September 2007 is the next major project to be undertaken, to reflect again the growth of the school and the increasing number of girls in particular. We will also be looking at plans to refurbish Grove.

Part of the interim plans during this two year period has been the use of some of the individual study rooms at the front of Grove as music practice rooms, perhaps an appropriate choice of temporary location, after Grove's triumph in the House Music Competition!

SIXTH FORM

Development updates...

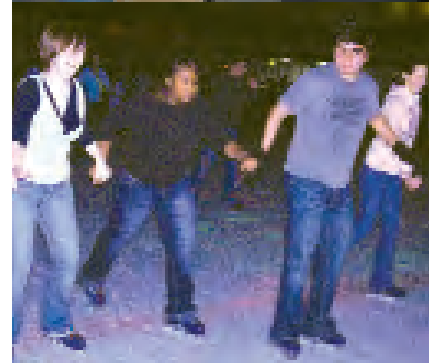
Marjory Morris, Director of Sixth Form, writes: We are delighted that so many of our current students will be joining the Sixth Form in September, and we will be welcoming many new arrivals to school. Sixth Formers have already been enjoying new initiatives like the Formal Dinner and Supper Club speakers, as well as the first social event, Ice Skating.

Feedback from the Open Evening about the Sixth Form was very positive. Families, of both current and prospective pupils found it helpful to visit the departments to find out about courses. Naturally, there is significantly more to life in the Sixth Form at Leighton Park than just A levels! The panel of Sixth Formers **Jon Beale** and **Benji Avro**, with OLs **Alex Dresner** and **Sam Brown**, with LP Governor and parent **Judi Marling** left people in no doubt about their endorsement of the LP

Sixth Form, particularly in terms of the sense of community, the breadth of extra-curricular activity and pastoral support.

The new Sixth Form programme offers stimulating and challenging sessions which may be followed to AS or GCSE level. Nicknamed LiteBytes, Lower Sixth students can choose one from the following subjects: Critical Thinking, Mandarin, Dance, Science for Public Understanding and Film Studies. This is in addition to Community Service and the wealth of opportunities within school of music, sport, drama and many other activities.

Students have already been contributing their thoughts for the design of the centre and after the holidays a competition to name the centre will be launched.



New Horizons Induction to the Sixth Form

3rd-7th July 2006

Taster lessons

Team building activities

BBQ

Ballroom Dancing

Formal dinner

And much more...

*Make sure you've reserved
your place!*

Young Enterprises...



The Yelp team ...



Impact help a customer ...

This is a popular part of Sixth Form life, with students setting up companies, gaining first hand commercial experience.

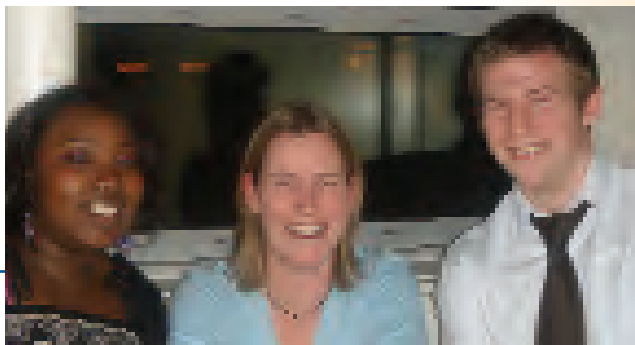
Natalie Poon writes: Yelp was set up in September. We have imported our products from China, including hand warmers, torches and phone decorations. **Ben Ivry** is our Managing Director, **Alex Walton** our Secretary and there are 12 of us in the company. We went to a trade fair in December and February. We have earned at least £170, which we hope to split between giving to charity and sharing the rest between ourselves.

Michael MacLennan writes: Impact is a Young Enterprise company. We decided to sell mobile phone accessories, including signal boosters, battery operated phone chargers and more. We sold them at two Farmers Markets; we broke even at the first and made over £40 at the second. A fresh start in the new year and new products. For Valentine's day, we bought chocolate hearts and Valentine bears. These were sold at the spring Trade Fair in the Broad Street Mall, and sold out, making over £80.

Oxbridge...

As part of a programme for pupils who are considering an Oxbridge application, a group of fifteen Year 11s and Lower Sixth visited Selwyn College, Cambridge. Dr Mike Sewell, Admissions Tutor, spoke to the group about the rigours of the application process. It was an interesting and inspiring day; some students also visited other colleges as well as enjoying looking around Cambridge. Last term, a group also visited Oriel College, Oxford.

Formal Dinner...



5

All dressed up...



Jon Beale writes: This term saw the second of these dinners take place in Oakview. They are an opportunity for staff and U6 students to meet with "good food, good wine and good company". Jon Beale says that there was "a wonderful sense of community, and it enabled Sixth Formers to socialise with staff in a friendly and convivial atmosphere".

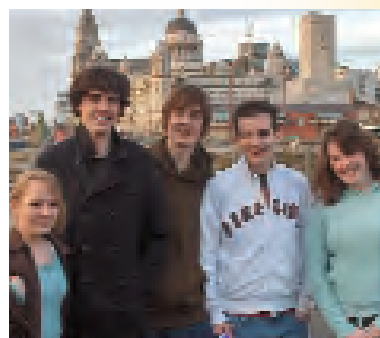
The food, created by Ricky Adlington and his team, was again a match for anything served at a top restaurant and had the added attraction this time of a competition to guess the flavour of a new ice cream. Bharat Daswani won a box of chocolates for correctly guessing that it was parsnip!

Historical visits...

Over February half term, 5 A-Level Historians set out on a study visit with a difference. The five students visited St Deiniol's library, the only residential library in Europe, set up by one of Britain's most illustrious Prime Ministers, William Ewart Gladstone. The Library houses over 32,000 publications and **Lizzie Isherwood** 'liked having the opportunity to fully research my coursework topic and spending time with my friends at the same time'. **Chris Liddicott** writes 'it contained a wealth of information that we capitalised on for our coursework'. **John Ireland** adds that 'the time was of great value for gaining access to books that cannot be found in normal libraries'.

James Gillespie writes that the visit was 'a thoroughly cultural as well as historical trip'. Whilst in the area, students were lucky enough to visit the Lady Lever Art gallery, at Port Sunlight, a model village personally

designed by Lord Lever for the workers in his soap factories. This gallery houses Britain's foremost collection of Pre-Raphaelite Art. The students also visited the Tate Gallery



Perhaps the highlight was an afternoon in Hawarden Castle, Gladstone's ancestral home. **John Ireland** comments that 'we gained a real insight into his personal life when we visited his personal library, just as it had been left by Gladstone when he died. A collection of axes, a strategically placed bust of Disraeli just above his desk and the measurements of his children and family carved into the side of his bookcase showed a hardworking and deeply caring man'. **Lizzie Isherwood** concludes, 'the trip provided a valuable insight into Gladstone's life as a person, not only as a politician.'

To the Frontiers of Existence, by Legio VI, Parcus Leightonii...

Victoria Jama Leana and Jonathanicus Georgius Andreas Bealus (Legio VI) aka **Victoria Lean** and **Jon Beale** write: The experience of visiting the edge of empire (Hadrian's Wall) was a fulfilling one, with the highlight as dressing up as a Roman soldier! We were entertained by a man with many bones at York University, and were graced with the presence of David Harker, an Old Leightonian. We found the streets of York particularly quaint, in comparison to the momentous frontier of the Roman Empire. In addition we visited the fortress remains under York Minster, before being treated in Café Concerto with

tea and cake, a necessity for the Roman diet!

The walk along the wall enabled us to follow in the footsteps of the Roman Infantry, and we were able to 'relieve' ourselves in the communal latrines at Housesteads Fort. At Vindolanda we were inspired by the quality of artefactual remains and correspondence between soldier and their wives over social events, such as beer rations and a birthday party.

Finally we visited the sites of Birdoswald and Corbridge - originally an Agricola Fort, but which later developed into a vicus (civilian) settlement by 200 AD.



The Debate over Sixth Form dress continues...

FRYER NEWS

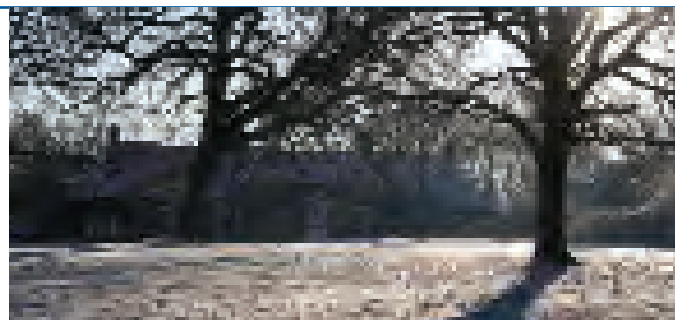
Roger Aylward writes...



My first time on skis...

Freezing cold, snow and March winds never cool the high spirits in Fryer. This term there have been so many highlights, both inside and out of the classrooms, which the pupils and I are delighted to share with you here.

When I write for The Park, telling you about the fun, the sports and the activities, it is sometimes possible to forget that there is a lot of hard work that also goes on! This term's reading related events show just how much, in a world of



Snowy Fryer..

computers and playstations, the pupils still love reading.

Along with the Hush (in aid of the Macmillan Trust) there was also Readathon, both showing the endless willingness of Fryer pupils (and their families) to raise money at charitable events.

Pauline, the rest of the Fryer staff and I wish you and yours a happy Easter. We hope you enjoy reading the children's news.

Pauline, the rest of the Fryer staff and I wish you and yours a happy Easter.

Do the time warp...



Smiling in the cold at Warwick...

Year 8s got more than they expected at Warwick Castle when they ended up taking part in a reconstruction of the Battle of Poitiers! Costumed characters at Warwick brought history vividly to life.

Josh Lambert writes: Warwick was amazing, I couldn't believe how big it was on paper but the castle looked so small when we got here!



Unfortunately it was raining but it didn't dampen our spirits! Guys Tower is huge, it has 45 steps. The gate and barbican were VERY intimidating!! We went around the castle examining the castle and how foolproof its defense was; we saw a trebuchet which could shoot massive stones 247meters. The Kingmaker Exhibition about the Earl of Warwick was the highlight of this trip for me!

Ellie Stanley adds: Warwick Castle was very interesting and very cold, but that didn't matter. We started by walking around the castle and deciding which angle would be best to invade from! Next we went to an archery demonstration and then the man told us to come and join in with a re-enactment of the battle of Poitiers!!! My favourite part was the dungeon which still has the cage they used to hang you up in!

Jake Wilson writes: There were actors walking around pretending to be people from that time period, like an executioner and a prisoner in his stocks. Near the back was the ghost tower which had creepy music and a spooky figure in the corner ready to pounce on any unaware victim. In the armoury were lots of amazing weapons like battle axes and great swords and long swords and also defensive mechanisms like armour and chain mail.

Hush...

In Readathon, pupils were sponsored to read as many books as possible, in aid of CLIC Sargent and The Roald Dahl Foundation. **Will Earle A'Hern** writes: Readathon is about reading as many books as possible in 3 weeks. It is a wonderful event. It is good because it encourages children to get reading and to learn to enjoy books. The dual aspects of the event, raising money for charity and encouraging reading are great, as some of us don't read as much as we should.



Keeping quiet is a challenge for some! **Kate Green** explains: One Friday lunchtime about 50 of us sat in silence for 30 minute instead of break. Quakers do this most weeks for longer, but ours was different as we were being sponsored to do it. In the end we were successful in staying quiet, and even better raised over £700 for Macmillan Cancer Relief

Books are fun!...



Fryer pupils...

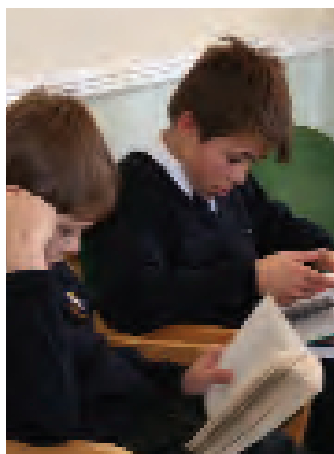
Judging by the interest in a number of events about books this term, it is clear that a good read is still a favourite pastime for many pupils. The Fryer Library refurbishment will be complete in the summer; carpets, shelving, furniture and of course a whole new set of books have been ordered, to enhance this facility for future generations of pupils.

A team from Fryer competed against six local schools in the first round in the Berkshire Book Quiz, held here on 6th February. Book-lovers, from Year 7 at Bulmershe, Emmbrook, The Forest, Luckley-Oakfield, Ryeish Green, Waingels College and LP faced rounds of questions on Books, Popular Culture and General Knowledge. In a needle finish, Fryer and Waingels drew; then a tie break also ended in a draw and in a sudden death finish, Waingels won by one point. Order was kept by Question Master, **Ken Lovesy**. This event is one of a host of events forming the Berkshire Book Festival, organised by the Berkshire Education Library Service.

Ellie Stanley writes: On February 28th, to celebrate World Book day, lots of people from Fryer dressed up as book characters. I was Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz, but there were loads of good costumes, including Harry Potter, Pippi Long-Stocking and loads more. It was hard

for the judges to choose the winners. The overall winning costume was **Charlie Fooks** dressed as Mr Tumnus, the faun from "the Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe". There were many other great costumes: Just William, Mary Poppins, the White Rabbit and Heidi, to name a few. The winners got a £10 book voucher and everyone else had sweets. We really enjoyed it!

On March 1st Leighton Park was the venue for the Berkshire Book Festival Author Event. Authors **Steve Barlow** and **Steve Skidmore** spoke to excited pupils from Year 7 & 8 from more than 20 local schools.



Can't beat a good read...

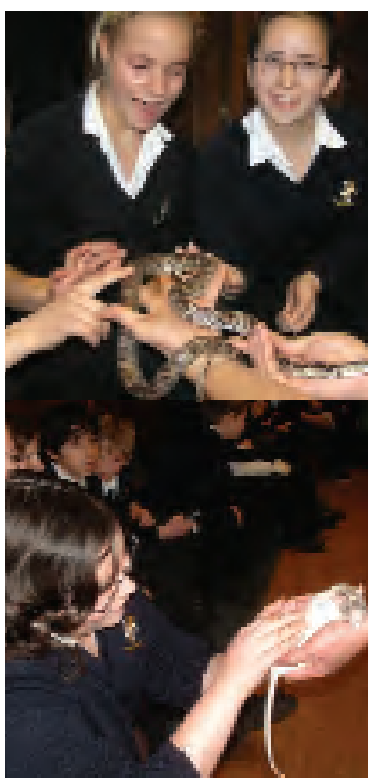


Meet the authors...

Walk on the wild side...

ZooLab brought the rainforest to LP for Year 8 to learn about.

Olwen Morrey writes: They brought creatures like a snake, rat, cockroaches and a tarantula. I plucked up courage to hold the snake; the skin was really smooth and it didn't stop moving. We were allowed to stroke the rat but it moved fast so we couldn't hold it. She was adorable. I had a great time learning about the animals.



Making Friends...

Sport Successes...

Luke Shepherd writes: It has been a great term so far in Fryer for Rugby too. We have only lost one game (a training match against Pangbourne) but have won all the others against good opposition convincingly, including against Bearwood College.

Roger Aylward adds: We are looking forward to the remaining matches with confidence. The B XV have also played with many year 7s gaining valuable match experience.

In the Fryer Cross Country Championships, the overall winner was Rowntree, by two points. The Boys winner was **Sam Brabham** (this is the first time a Year 7 pupil has won) and the girls, **Beth Murphy**. There was a great atmosphere with pupils cheering on their friends and every pupil took part. The miserable weather certainly did not dampen spirits.



ARTS

A Monumental Drawing...

John Dunston writes: Visitors to the school during the term cannot fail to have noticed the magnificent monumental drawing on the wall at Reception. This amazing compilation is the work of Aisling Hedgecock, Artist-in-Residence at LP in 2002-3. Large scale drawings are one of her specialities: while she was here, Aisling worked with many pupils on such projects, also introducing the idea to other prep and primary schools.

When she left, we commissioned from her a drawing of all the school buildings on the Park at the time - and here it is: a unique record of the school at that moment in its history.

Artist-in-residence **Julia Borodina** has had work selected for the prestigious Annual Exhibition of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours at London's Mall Galleries (16th March-9th April). It is a great achievement to have work selected. Anyone who has seen Julia's work in her studio or around school will already know of her talent.

Polly Scates writes: Last December, the Year 11 art group went on a two day trip to Paris, to help us gain inspiration for our GCSE modules. On the first day we visited the Musée d'Orsay, which is famous for Impressionism. The Musée d'Orsay holds many of the most famous



Admiring the drawing...

Impressionist paintings by such artists as Vincent van Gogh and Monet. The second museum we visited was the Centre Pompidou. This museum is famous for its modern art. This was my favourite museum as I am doing Pop Art for one of my modules and the Centre Pompidou holds many Roy Lichtenstein and Andy Warhol paintings. The museum also contains many sculptures as well as videos and pieces of music. During the trip we also took a river cruise down the Seine. In the evening we went up the Eiffel tower. This was my favourite part of the trip, although it was frightening, the views were amazing, especially in the night when the city was lit up. Altogether the trip was an amazing experience, very interesting and valuable addition to our course.



Book News...

To celebrate World Book Day on March 2nd, a Book Shop, run by Nigel Gough of Bookcentre, one of LP's book suppliers, was set up, so that pupils and staff could use their World Book Day vouchers. It was overwhelmed by enthusiastic shoppers! Year 8s **Lucy Dodds**, **Lottie Dodwell**, **Chris Memmott** and **Luke Shephard** represented LP in the **E Book** project. They explain: We wrote the first chapter in a four chapter book which Sandhurst, Brackenhale and Reading completed. Our job was to give the story a good start and make an interesting book. We worked out a rough story in class and then Lottie and Lucy wrote the first part, and Chris and Luke wrote the second. We then put them together and adjusted it. Chris Routh then emailed it to the next school to continue. By the end of the week, 3 chapters had been added and the book named "Death has a Shadow". It was interesting to see how our opening chapter was developed and we enjoyed seeing our story grow.

Year 9 pupils have again been voting in the **Berkshire Book Award**. In class they have been reading books from the shortlist and made presentations to each other and also to year 8, to suggest why their book should be the winner. Shortlisted books are: Eoin Colfer's "The Opal Deception", Anthony Horowitz's "Ark Angel", Christopher Paolini's "Eldest", J.K.Rowling's "Harry Potter and the Half-blood Prince", Darren Shan's "Lord Loss" and Jacqueline Wilson's "Clean Break". The Berkshire Book Award Winner was Harry Potter with Leighton Park's overall winner Ark Angel.



Debating Success...



Rahul Desousa, **Sam Peat**, **Gabriel Gavigan** and **Will Stevens** competed in the Oxford Young Debaters Competition, in Bristol. We were one of only 64 out of 270 schools to get through and Gabriel and Will won through to the National Finals. They explain: we had to take part in 3 debates with topics related to moral and political issues. The first was "Returning cultural treasures to their country of origin", only being told fifteen minutes before whether they

were supporting or opposing. Further debates were on "The replacement of all exams with coursework" and "A ban on smoking in public places", made even more difficult by not even being given the topic until fifteen minutes before. Gabriel and Will made it through to the next round so had to debate with three other teams "Assassinating foreign dictators". The standard was the best I have ever seen and all the teams, including us, are off to the national competition.

Bringing down the House...

The House Music Competition on February 10th had the senior houses battling to show their musical superiority, in front of the judges, BBC Radio 3 presenter, **Fiona Talkington**, **Nigel Williams** and **Michael McGregor**. In a very close competition, for the second year running, Grove House were the overall winners. They won the Small and Large Ensemble categories, with School winning the Solo and Original Composition. Mary Hudson's remarkable bassoon solo achieved full marks from the judges.



Rose Scales, Director of Music wrote: This competition goes from strength to strength, demonstrating the wide variety of skills in school. The Original Composition round showed a high standard of composition, with a myriad of styles represented.

Fiona is best known as the presenter of BBC Radio 3's award winning show Late Junction. She has worked for the BBC for sixteen years, including the breakfast show Morning, the Proms Live and many live broadcasts. She has travelled to many music festivals around the world, including WOMAD.

The Wednesday evening concert series has continued this half term, containing some wonderful performances. The Soloists' Concert, which included numerous new faces to the stage, was another outstanding evening and the Jazz Evening demonstrated the depth of talent throughout the department. Established bands such as Liquid Silk and the Dixieland Band performed alongside the new ensemble Black Jacks, as well as the Jazz Cats, Senior Jazz and Jazz Kittens. Every term we describe that the standards are higher than ever, but it is true, with more and more pupils wanting to perform.

Olivia Wheeler-Robinson's benefit concert in aid of Cystic Fibrosis on February 8th finished the first half of term in style. Olivia, (year 11) has suffered all her life from the condition



and wanted the whole school and the wider world to find out more about the condition. Olivia and friends performed a mixture of contemporary and popular songs, some covers and some written by the themselves. One of Olivia's main goals was to increase awareness of the difficulties of living with this condition, and she certainly achieved this, leading a Collect and also getting media exposure including Meridian TV.

Date for your diary!
Saturday 24th June
Music for a Summer's
Evening
6.30-9.00pm
Barbecue by the PTA.

Coram Boy...

Gabriel Gavigan writes: On January 19th, the English Department organised a trip to the Coram Boy at the National Theatre. The brilliant adaptation of the book by Jamila Gavin impressed everyone; the trip was a huge success.

The surprisingly clever and original motif of the production was its use of music throughout. There was an orchestra and several scenes featured choirboys. One tear-drawing scene used "O Death, where is thy sting, O Grave, thy victory" to accompany the burial of babies.

The production did justice to the beautifully written story, a tale set in the 18th Century of love lost and found, tested friendships and slavery. This incredible tale which features a hanging, Handel, murder and infanticide should not be missed.

Scholarships...

Congratulations to the following pupils who are new recipients of scholarships for the new academic year:

Art Awards: William Burr(St Andrew's), Beth Murphy (LP), Katherine Newson (LP);

Music Awards: Charlotte Fooks (LP), Henry Colbourne (Dolphin), Robert McCausland(Goring C of E), Louise Tayler-Grint (Denefield), Leo Ijebor (LP), Mary Triddon (LP), Nicole Fleary-Griffith (LP).

Academic: Naomi Alderson (Dolphin); Phoebe Jack(St Andrew's); Amy Cheng (Waverley), Beatrice Clegg (Dolphin); Ben Jones (Colleton).

At the time of going to print, Sixth Form scholarships have not been finalised.

For more information about Scholarships, please contact the Admissions Office.

SPORTS

House Competitions...

The **Junior House Netball** was a very hard fought competition in the penultimate week of term where the juniors fielded their strongest teams. School beat Grove 17-5, who



then also lost to Reckitt 2-10. School also beat Reckitt 15-2. So, the winners were School, Reckitt 2nd and 3rd Grove.

The **Senior House Netball** was played in very good spirit with a number of the players being assessed for their A level Sports studies practical. Reckitt beat Grove 11-8, Reckitt then beat School 11-5. School also won against Grove 13-4 so Reckitt came 1st, School 2nd and 3rd, Grove.

The most challenging of all house competitions our **2006 Cross-Country Championships** were at least blessed with fine weather. The



junior race, just over three miles, was won by **Leo Packham** (Grove) with **Morris Symington** (Reckitt) and **Ross Pflaeger** (Field) in 2nd and 3rd respectively.

The senior race was won by **Laurence Hunter** (Field). Laurence was made to work all the way by **Alex Jeffries** (Field) and his brother **Edward** (Field). With Field runners finishing with six placings in the top eleven in both races they won the overall team competition.

As we move towards the end of term the basketball, soccer and hockey competitions have yet to be completed.

Double Netball Delight!...

LP's Year 11 team are now Year 11 Reading Schools Netball Champions 2006. **Hannah Dodds, Nicole Fleary-Griffiths, Alex Barker, Chantal Cummings, Millie Dennis, Lizzie Hearn and Katie Hopkinson** played 2 matches in their section beating Prospect 12-1 and losing 5-3 to the Abbey. Coming 2nd in the section they played Kendrick in the semi-finals beating them 14-3 where they then faced Abbey again, in the Final. It was a very close game and after the first half we were only winning by 1 point 3-2. In the second half the team

stepped up the pace and stretched to win 7-4. CONGRATULATIONS. The Year 8 team played 3 matches in their pool finishing 2nd, qualifying for the semi-finals of the Cup competition, where they came 4th overall.

Yr 9 played against 5 other schools including Abbey, Prospect, Denefield, Highdown and Kendrick. Both Kendrick and LP won all their games and the last match between them decided the winner. LP started off well then Kendrick pulled away scoring 11-2 so the team came 2nd overall. Year 10 team came second in their section where they then played the winner of the other section Kendrick...losing to them they came 3rd overall.

SE Berks Runners Up

Year 7's travelled to Ascot where they beat St. Mary's, Marist, Garth Hill and Sandhurst winning their section. They played Emmbrook in the quarter-finals winning 7-0, then played St. Mary's in the Semi-finals winning 7-1. They deserved their place in the final where they played Marist, unfortunately losing 1-5. They are therefore SE

Berkshire U12 Runner's up. Well done to **Issi Mead, Frankie Taylor, Alice Herbert, Elysia Newton, Ellen Few, Funto Fabunmi-Alade, Natha Twala, Kate Green, Lucy Heath.**

U13 and U14 teams were up against strong opposition. Both teams had very close games but unfortunately did not make it through to the semi-final.

Representative Honours

During the term **Rory Otterburn** and **Stuart Gough** have been regular member of the Berkshire U.15 Rugby Squad. In recent weeks they have attended training sessions and played matches against Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire.

Seam bowler, **Edward Hunter**, has attended Berkshire cricket training sessions during the winter. As a result

of some impressive performances he has been selected for the U.16 squad for the summer matches which begin early next term.

Young allrounder, **Jake Elias**, has continued to impress the selectors with his batting and bowling and he will be a leading player for the Berkshire U.12's next term.

Amy Simmonds and **Izzy Dodds** have been regular members of the Berkshire U.15 hockey squad this

term. They have played in matches against all of the other Southern counties (Sussex, Surrey, Oxon, Bucks, Middlesex and Hampshire) with Berkshire finishing 3rd overall. Amy has also attended Southern Counties trials and assessment sessions.

Lizzie Hearn, who has played for the Surrey U.16 girls at rugby has been invited to a South trial during the Easter vacation.

Our Friends in the North...

Students in Years 9 and 10 from the EAL Department spent a busy weekend visiting Stratford, the Peak District, Liverpool and Blenheim. **Annie Cheng** writes: I learned a lot of things about Shakespeare. The most funny thing was that the people were so small in his time, they had small shoes, beds and clothes and the doors to go to different



rooms are so low. At the Youth Hostel in the Peak District, there was a rocket launching activity followed by a walk in the beautiful countryside.

Kerry Men writes:



The amazing landscape surprised me because I've never seen a farm before, except on TV. I climbed to the top of a hill and felt proud of myself. In the forest the river was so clean and pure.

Angus Lai was impressed with Liverpool Cathedral: I love the windows, they were so colourful and beautiful. From the top, we could see all of Liverpool. After, we went to two museums, the Tate and the Maritime Museum, about the history of slaves.

Rowing success...

Chantal Cummings has started another successful season rowing for Henley Rowing Club's Junior squad. She has recorded wins at Henley and Hampton (3 golds) in both a quadruple and single scull. Most notable was her recent wins at the prestigious Schools Head events, held on consecutive days on the Regatta course at Henley and the Boat Race course on the

Tideway. Her crew had an emphatic win in the keenly contested quadruple sculls event at Henley and went on to set a win in a new record time in the 'eights' event over the Chiswick to Putney course.

After an international club competition in Ghent, Belgium, she's looking forward to the regatta season (with multi lane racing) and hopes to compete at the National Championships later this year.



On the water...

Lest we forget...

The Holocaust Exhibition at the Imperial War Museum, London made a great impact on Year 9.

Sam Poulson writes about a child's shoe found at Auschwitz which made a great impression on him : the little child was murdered in the gas chamber. I already knew the facts about the deaths at Auschwitz, but when you see the shoe of a three year old that was killed there, it shines a whole new light it. As the saying goes, one death is a tragedy, six million is a statistic. Seeing it from the point of view of one person, you really see how terrible it was."



There was also a video of survivors and also a reconstruction of a trench which the pupils were able to experience.

Sam sums up "It was a new way of looking at

the Holocaust and the two World Wars. It teaches you about it by actually hearing and seeing things, rather than just reading a book."

Year 9 also enjoyed a visit by The Travelling History Museum. **Ed Williams** writes: This was an interesting experience. He had obviously been working on this for a long time; the bibles were fascinating, especially the steel covered one to protect the heart, with a bullet in it. My favourite was the periscopes.

Chris Wheeler adds: It was amazing to see the wars from a different aspect. Before it was figures and stories, now I realise how the people involved were real people, with friends and families. His collection of bibles often had messages wishing them good luck. He also brought a dummy rifle so we felt the weight of the guns. We had a very enjoyable time.



Maths Challenge Record...

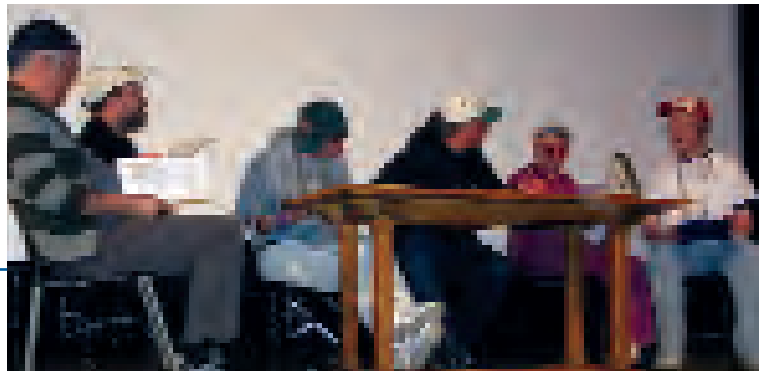
Janet Bradford, Head of Maths, writes: Our school participates regularly in the famous UK Maths Challenges. In November 2005, 66 students from Year 11 & the Sixth Form took part in the Senior Maths Challenge.

In Feb 2006, fifty five students from years 9-11 did the Intermediate Maths Challenge and 40 of them achieved the merit certificates, with 11 Gold, 17 silver and 12

Bronze. This is the first time an amazing 73% of participants obtained certificates from this initiative. Five pupils have qualified to take part in the next round of the competition: **Felix Wong**, **Francesca Germer** (Year 11), **Zichao Song** and **James Box** (Year 10) and **Sam Poulson** (Year 9); we wish them every success .

On April 26th Years 7 and 8 will be writing the Junior Maths Challenge. On March 24th, four pupils from Years 8 and 9 will be participating in the Team Maths Challenge Regional Final at Wootton Bassett School.

NEWS



Charity revue...

This term the Good Causes committee adopted "Debra" to receive the money raised at the spectacular Charity Revue. Powerful videos of the suffering faced by children with the genetic skin blistering condition Epidermolysis Bullosa brought the message home to the audience. **John Allinson** writes: There were an assortment of sketches- kicking off the event was a 'chav' Senior Management Team Meeting (innit?). **Geraint Evans** and **Julian Wood** joined me in a Monty Python sketch. There's was a rap battle (with the winner MC Jonny Quest, aka **Jon Beale**), an MTV cribs and lesson spoof as well as a couple of great videos. **Nicole Fleary-Griffiths** and **Wezi Mzumara** got the audience's arms swaying along to their duet. An auction of experiences featured hot bidding to be Head Girl and Head Boy for a day, with **Marjory Morris** winning the bid to be Superman for the day. The evening stormed to a riotous close with The Field House Boys and Julian's rendition of The Black Eyed Peas "My Humps". Well done to the committee and everyone involved for a fantastic event.



D of E Award Winners...



Award winners...

Ann Munday writes: At the Reading Presentation evening recently Bronze Awards were presented to **Laura Curtis, Matthew Dunston, Harriet Jackson** and **Tom Lucas**. Between them a variety of activities were undertaken, including singing, cello playing, helping with a local children's choir, rock climbing, football, Police Awareness, and First Aid.

OLs **Richard Briault-Hutter** and **Matthew Leopold** came down from their respective universities, Manchester and Durham, to comere the evening. Their unique style and humour added greatly to the proceedings, particularly when each had to introduce the other as the recipient of a Gold Award.

Matthew with the Oakleaf...



Matthew completed his Gold during his GAP year at the Friends' School in Hobart, Tasmania, where he helped with a number of camping trips, in particular a week's camping trip for the new year 7 students. For his Skill, he was Managing Director of a Young Enterprise company. He provided service through his Stage Technician work, and also ran the Reading Half Marathon. Matthew (below) is pictured receiving the LP Oakleaf Award for outstanding contribution over time to the school community, only ever awarded once before, in 1997.

Richard was also involved in Young Enterprise, as Financial Director. He played football for his Physical Recreation, and also helped as a Stage Technician. Richard has become a valued member of Manchester University's International Society, and did his Residential Section as a volunteer tutor at the Society's orientation course for new students last September.

PTA Quiz

Around seventy parents, pupils and staff racked their brains at the Quiz Evening. The Quiz took place in a typical LP spirit of fair play, though competition was keen!

It was a great social event, with people staying to chat until late. Thanks to the PTA for organising such a splendid evening, and to the Oakview team for the delicious meal.



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