



## Christmas thanks

Dear Parents and Carers, and friends of The Cotswold School,

When I look at the pages of this Christmas edition of Cotswold News I am extremely proud of our staff and all our young people—your children. It is hard to believe that our Year 7s—already so involved in the life of the school — have only just completed their first term in secondary education.

This term has been action-packed to say the least. As well as their full schedules of study, Cotswold School students have taken part in sporting fixtures, public speaking events, performing arts, photography competitions, writing competitions, model UN, trips, exchanges and mud runs... and that was just through the school. We are aware that so many challenge themselves outside school as well and we are delighted to hear of their achievements.

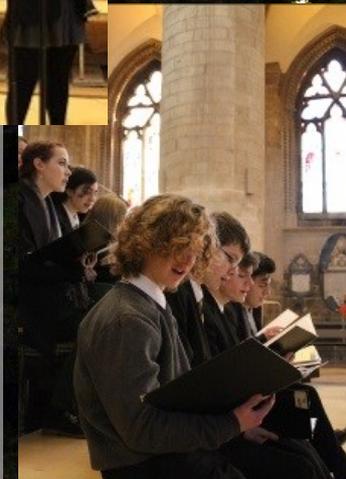
Just this term, through a variety of fundraising initiatives, the students have helped raise over £4000 for charities and over £3000 for the school. This has been done through the PTA's hugely successful inaugural raffle, non-uniform days, bake sales and, of course, the magnificent 'Spirit of Christmas' concert held in Gloucester Cathedral in support of Muscular Dystrophy. Our choirs and musicians, supported by the school's wonderful teachers of Music, performed superbly again this year in this concert that is now billed as the Christmas Concert 'not to be missed' in Gloucestershire. (*pictures below*).

None of these initiatives would be possible without our hard working, talented staff nor without parents, carers, friends and our community. I am extremely grateful to you all for your support.

The term has ended on a high note, quite literally, with end of year assemblies and rousing performances of 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' sung enthusiastically, if not tunefully, by students of all ages and staff.

The staff join me in wishing you and your loved ones a safe, peaceful and happy Christmas and very best wishes for the coming year.

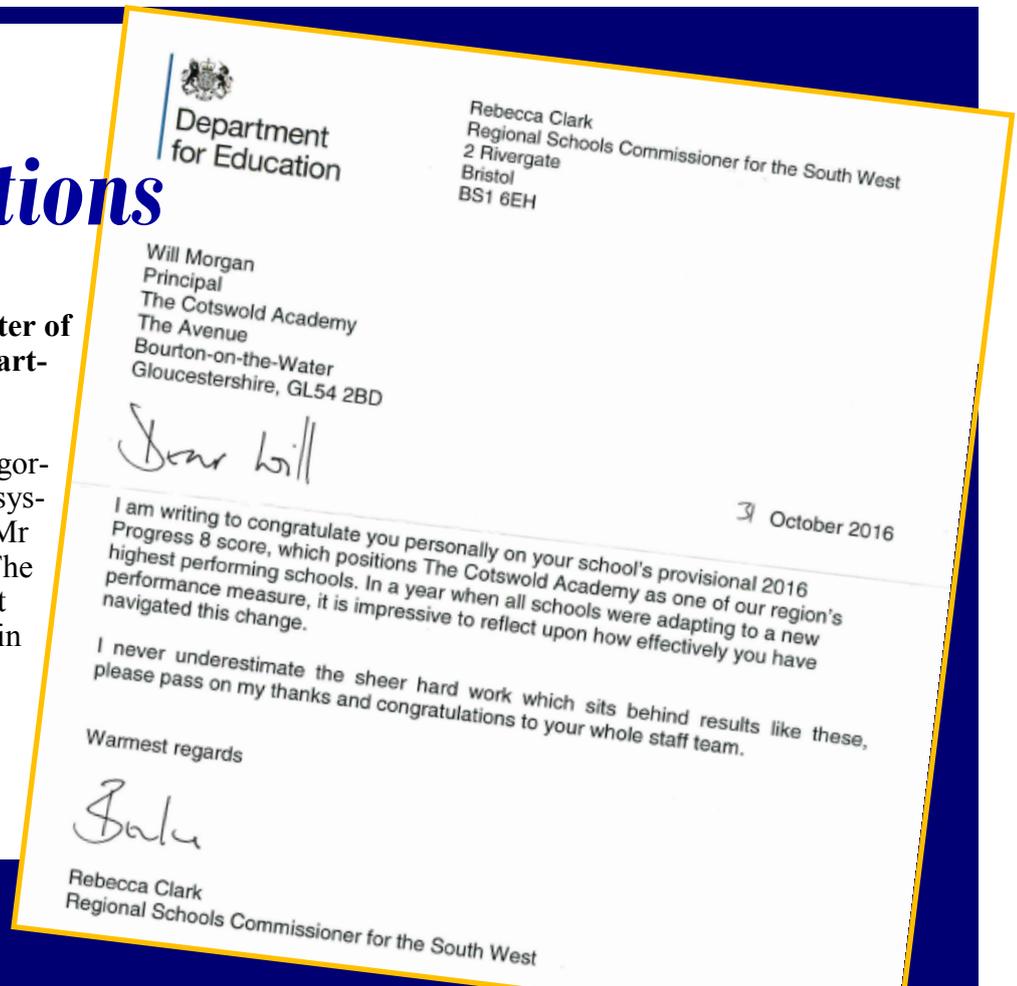
- Mr Will Morgan



# Letter of Congratulations

**Mr Morgan has received a letter of congratulations from the Department for Education!**

Under the government's new, rigorous performance measurement system for schools - 'Progress 8' - Mr Morgan has been advised that The Cotswold School ranks amongst the highest performing schools in the Southwest.



## Emily's Frankly Astonishing Haul of Medals

**Emily Franks, Year 11, has just returned from the GymStars International Gymnastics Competition in Malta with a fist-full of medals.**

Emily, who has studied gymnastics since the age of two with The Gym Centre Cheltenham, won two gold medals (for bar and vault), two bronze medals (for floor and beam) and a bronze medal overall in her age group. Together with her team mates, who competed with gymnasts from many countries around the world, they also came 5th overall.

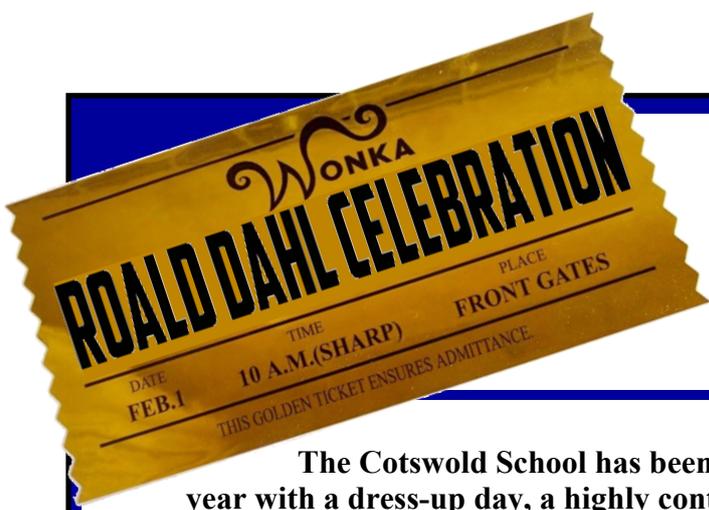
She says of her achievement, "I'm really happy but completely shocked! I had not expected to do so well in the competition and to come away with five medals is amazing".

Her parents are equally thrilled. "For her to win so many medals, including two golds, against many other gymnasts from around the world is incredible. We are extremely proud of her hard work and dedication."

Amongst the elite team that was selected from their Club to compete in Malta, was fellow Cotswold pupil Emily Rowe, Year 9.

Emily has not rested on her laurels however, continuing her success at the Final of the West Country League Club Competition in Wiltshire, where she and her team mates won a Silver medal with another Silver medal awarded overall for the competitions they entered this year.





## Inter-House Performing Arts Cup Performances Featuring 'Matilda the Musical'

The Cotswold School has been celebrating Roald Dahl's centenary year with a dress-up day, a highly contested inter-house performing arts competition and also as a directorial opportunity for rising star and dedicated theatre studies student, Sam Pout (18).



Over two evenings, students across our school Houses - Zeus, Artemis, Poseidon and Apollo - performed mini-productions inspired by Roald Dahl. The audiences placed their votes and, once tallied on the final night, Zeus was declared the winners with their wonderful mini-production of Dahl's 'Witches'. Congratulations to all the students who took part. The competition for this year's Inter-House Performing Arts Trophy was a very close run thing!



Zeus celebrate their win!

Also for the school's Roald Dahl Centenary Celebration, sixth-former Sam Pout devised an abridged version of 'Matilda the Musical' which, on its final night had members of the audience on their feet. Miss Buckley, Head of Music explained to the impressed audience: 'Before the summer break, Mrs Monk (Head of Performing Arts) and I approached Sam to ask if he would consider directing a piece for our Roald Dahl celebration. He jumped at the chance and taking on every aspect of the show - from casting to full direction - Sam has produced the credible production you have enjoyed tonight. We are incredibly proud of him.'



in-

Sam, roundly cheered by his cast and crew, thanked his cast, the musicians and technical team - pointing out that without them all, 'the show would have been very boring!' Congratulations, Sam!

Our celebration of 100 years of Roald Dahl culminated in a dress-up day. Few will forget (or recover from) Miss Buckley as Mrs Twit while Year 10's Frankie Bastable put in a particularly brilliant effort, not only composing an atmospheric piece of music inspired by his favourite Dahl story 'Fantastic Mr Fox' but also organising a lunch time costume competition - all as part of his Silver Arts Award. Well done, Frankie!

## Roald Dahl Day Fancy Dress Competition

We are delighted to announce that the winner of Frankie's competition was >>>

**Sam Hollier (Y7)** who won a £10 book token for his brilliantly executed 'Mr Twit' costume. *Well done!*



# RACING TO SCHOOL

The Cotswold School was given the wonderful opportunity to take some of our Year 9 mathematics pupils to visit Cheltenham Race Course on 11 November 2016.

The day had been arranged for students to learn more about the real-life application of mathematics in the exciting context of Cheltenham's racing world, while also opening their eyes to the breadth of career opportunities available in this industry.

During their tour of the course, our pupils had the opportunity to visit the weighing rooms, tour and examine the machinery of the race course and see the training ring in action. They even got the chance to view a race or two!

This trip was provided by Racing To School (formerly the British Horseracing Education and Standards Trust) - a charity that supports young people's learning and development through the racing industry.

*Thank you to Mr Ollie McPhail, Lead Education Officer for inviting our school to Cheltenham Race Course and to Miss Clarke for organising the trip.*



Don't forget there are more pictures of school events on our website under News & Events!

## Sixth Form Shoebox Appeal



**PUPILS from Cotswold School have helped make Christmas a little more bearable for deprived children this year.**

Sixth formers from the Bourton-on-the-Water school have wrapped more than 50 shoeboxes, pack full of presents, after a team them appealed to their peers in an assembly. Every box will be donated to the

charity Teams4U, which will distribute them to poor children in Romania who would otherwise go without presents this Christmas.

Phil White, head of the school's sixth form, proposed the idea to Luke-Milner, 18, Hamish Lee, 17, and Freddy Gregory, 17. "The response has been great," said Freddy.

"We are privileged to be able to live the lives that we are and the least we could do is try to raise awareness to support those people that are not so lucky. We are very pleased that it went so well." Mr White added: "Hamish, Luke and Freddy prepared an assembly to inform the rest of the sixth form about the work of charity Teams4U.

"With four days at the most to complete the challenge and meet the delivery deadline, I was expecting, say, 10 or 12 boxes to be filled but I was delighted when over 50 arrived in my office. "They are filled to the brim with lovely toys and useful items. This will make a real difference this Christmas to the lives of the children who receive them."

Started by Dave Cooke, Teams4U works around the world to help impoverished children and their communities.

For more information visit, [www.teams4u.com](http://www.teams4u.com).



# Senior Citizens' Christmas Party



Students from Year 11 stepped up to the plate once again this year when hosting the annual Senior Citizens Christmas Party.

Now in its 20<sup>th</sup> Year, Year 11 catered, sang, performed, greeted and put on one amazing show for the elderly residents of our community.

Planning started early. A team of pupils gathered a number of generous gifts that had been kindly donated by businesses from the local area. The day before, the entertainment crew and brigade of chefs were busy rehearsing and cooking.

The menu this year was carefully planned. It consisted of Smoked Salmon and Cream Cheese Pin Wheels, Ham and Cream Cheese, Mince Pies, butter

cream and lemon curd cupcakes, mini trifles and mince pie cookies.

The entertainment was lead by Hal Pett. Highlights included Amy Manning and Izzy Evans singing, Tony Zhang on the piano and a scene from Scrooge. The Chamber Choir rounded the afternoon off with a stunning performance of festive carols.

The appreciation was shown by a very impromptu 'Three Cheers to The Cotswold School' from our guests, which was very much appreciated!

- Mr Smith, Design and Technology Department



# Mock UN Climate Change Conference

On the 10<sup>th</sup> November, 12 Sixth Form students from the Cotswold School participated in a mock UNCCC conference (mirroring the UN Climate Change conference that was due to be held in Morocco during the following weeks).

The event was organised and run by Interclimate and Se-ed, two organisations working to raise awareness of the issues associated with climate change.



Our students represented Canada, Australia and India presenting the specific challenges faced by



each nation as a result of climate change and argued their positions with regard to the Paris agreement. Two of our delegation – Sophie Taylor and Sophie Price - were selected to officiate the event, an honour that we have had bestowed upon the school for two consecutive years! They 'tweeted' the progress that was made during negotiations, alliances that were being formed between different parties, and agreements that were being brokered as they occurred.

Our teams researched and prepared their arguments, following the same agenda and points for discussion as those faced by the actual delegates that met the following week for the UNCCC conference in Marrakech, Morocco. Our students argued with the passion and gravitas that would put many politicians to shame. They were well informed and eloquent in their points, making sure that their points were delivered with clarity and precision.

Students then enjoyed listening to the key note speaker, Alex Chalk MP and his views on current environmental policy and the agenda that the UK should pursue in Marrakesh. Our students took the opportunity to question and share their opinions with regard to our environmental stance.

If you want to find out more about their work or this conference please go to: [www.interclimate.org/projects/climate-voices](http://www.interclimate.org/projects/climate-voices) and @ClimateVoicesUK





# British Champions off to Europe

**Aidan and Leo Hughes, along with their *Chippy Trixers* team mates have won the UK Roller Hockey National Tournament!**

Not only are they British champions, they will now represent GB in the European tournament in Germany in May 2017.

Both boys have previously been involved in international games and we wish them every success at next year's tournament.



## BON VISITE!

**Earlier this term we welcomed 21 students from our French partner school, College Public Charles Le Goffic in Lannion, Brittany.**



After a tour of the school with Madam Moss, they went to the Chipping Norton Panto to see Robinson Crusoe, had a high tea in Small Talk, went to Burford Wildlife Park (where it poured down all afternoon...), went to Warwick Castle and Shakespeare's birthplace. We also had our Saturday evening party in the canteen, where we all shared food. Mrs Kelman organized a raffle to raise money for Sue Ryder Hospice and a 'pub-type' quiz which I have to change every year because brothers and sisters join the trip year on year (I'm running out of questions to ask about the Cotswolds!) Finally on the Wednesday, we had our joint trip in London where we went on the London Eye, enjoyed a river cruise with lots of interesting information about various monuments we could see along the banks, watched a 4D movie under the Eye and went to the Natural History Museum. The students and their teachers then visited the Roman baths in Bath on their way back to the ferry. We are looking forward to our return visit in the Spring and we are all very excited as everybody got on so, so well! We would like to say a massive thank you to the three Year 11 students (who went on the trip last year) and their families, who hosted to help me out this year! - Mme Moss



## Bourton Ghost Walk

**This term, 8W have been exploring their Spooks and Spirits scheme of work and been experiencing many different forms of both reading and writing.**

Their study of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol has been central to their developing understanding of how literature can be used to explore human nature.

We recently went on a Ghost Walk around Bourton with local historian Edward Charnel; stu-

dents were focusing on his use of narrative and characterisation alongside developing their knowledge of the oral tradition. They completed a nonfiction writing task reviewing the tour as a response too! Lots of fun was had on a cold and atmospheric exploration of the ghosts and ghouls of the village.

*Well done 8W!*



# Civil War Day

**History came alive with our annual visit from a time traveler from the 17<sup>th</sup> Century!**

The History Squad is a Civil War re-enactor and he brought his collection of weapons, clothes and artefacts from the conflict to school this week.

His talks are always lively, engaging and dramatic as he describes the horrors of the fighting and the conditions that the people of England had to suffer. Pupils were lucky enough to be able to wear the uniforms and handle the real weapons to get a touch on the reality.

It was a great experience for all of Year 8 and helped to reinforce their studies for this term.



## One to watch: *Jacques Sauvagnargues*

**Jacques Sauvagnargues (Year 12) has been cycling since 8 and road racing for the last 3 years. Jacques is in the junior feeder team for a men's pro team and has just signed a new contract with team: Zappi from Oxford.**

Jacques has been recently racing abroad pitted against other professional teams and national teams. In a stage race covering 3 days near Naples, Italy in September, Jacques and his team came third and Jacques came 8th in the Best Young Rider category.

October saw Jacques racing in San Antonio, Texas in the RedBull Last Stand road race which again, attracted competitors from around the world. Jacques came 11th out of a field of 240 riders.

Next season Jacques says 'I would like to get a pro contract... that means training and racing loads.' After the season Jacques will graduate to a men's team from the junior

team. His next step from there? 'I'd like to get into a bigger men's team like BMC based in Belgium.'

It is tough juggling studies around racing and training. 'I'm up at 5am doing 30 min run or indoor ride before school and then after school I'm in the gym... and then I ride at the weekend. In season it's 2 hours a day cycling and 4 hours at the weekends.' Meanwhile studying Maths, Economics, Product Design and Psychology in the Sixth Form, Jacques, unsurprisingly, can find it hard to get up in the mornings!

Jacques enjoys sports in general but coming from a family who are cycling fans and an avid follower of the Tour de France, Jacques could not help but be inspired.

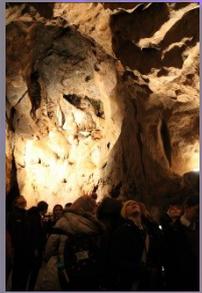
Jacques' idols in the sport are Alberto Contador, the Spanish professional cyclist and one of just six riders to have won all three Grand Tours of road cycling. And,

perhaps controversially, Jacques' other idol is Contador's one-time arch rival: Lance Armstrong. Jacques by no means condones Armstrong's role in doping and cheating in sport, but he reasons that Armstrong can still be appreciated for his talent and skill as a cyclist before he became caught in a system that supported and actively encouraged drug-taking amongst cyclists; and admired for his battle with cancer and his extensive charitable work. Jacques and his father are supporters of the LiveStrong cancer charity founded by Armstrong and had the opportunity to meet Armstrong personally while Jacques was cycling in San Antonio. Jacques says: 'He (Armstrong) was really nice. He talked to me and my Dad. He had invited a few friends to his house for dinner and he invited us to come along.'

***Congratulations, Jacques— and good luck next season!***

# *Pupils Gorged Themselves on Cheddar!*

**On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November, half of the Year 7 pupils, went on a Geography trip to Cheddar Gorge, located in Somerset. Year 7's Elsa Russell reports.**



We went on this trip because next term, after the Christmas holiday, we are going to be learning about limestone landscapes. Cheddar Gorge is a perfect example of this, because many of the caves there are made from coniferous limestone. Gough's cave is one of my main examples.



Gough's cave was founded by a man named Richard Gough. Whilst exploring the cave, and before it was opened to the public, a man's skeleton was discovered, and is said to be 9,000 years old! He was found in the year 1903. A whole that was found inside the man's skull, suggests that either he had a very violent death or when the Gough sons

were looking around the cave, they accidentally harmed the skeleton with one of their tools.

Stalagmites and stalactites are also naturally part of this cave and many others too. Stalagmites rise upwards, towards the ceiling, and stalactites hang from the ceiling, they hold on tightly. Every 1,000 years, a sugar cube sized droplet of water hangs down off the stalactites. This is because the cave once used to be underwater, and as the cave is made from coniferous limestone, the water creeps its way down through the rock, through cracks, and down into the cave. Water would have once ram-paged through the cave, helping to shape the cave's insides.

Three coins are placed in the ceiling, and have been for many years, as they were placed there by Richard himself. This is because if the cave has moved or has been shaken by an underground tremor, the people who run the cave will be able to see the fallen coins on the floor and know that it is unsafe for any visitors, so will have it

fixed or sorted by experts/professional's.

Cheddar Gorge attracts many visitors and is very popular for its history, and as mentioned earlier, caves.

If you haven't already been, I recommend going as there are also plenty of accompanying places to go and have lunch after exploring its wonders!

**- Elsa Russell, Year 7, Winner of the Geography writing competition**

***Congratulations Elsa!***



## *German Christmas Market*

**At the start of December, Year 9 visited the Birmingham 'German Christmas Market', which is the largest authentic German market outside of Germany and Austria.**

Pupils were able to explore over 180 stalls selling gifts, jewellery, decorations, handmade toys and delicious German food! Pupils experienced German Bratwurst (white or red sausage) and Brezel, which are traditional German foods and are famous throughout the world. How the Bratwurst is served varies by region, but it is commonly served with a Brötchen (roll). The Brezel is a type of bread and is particularly famous in South Germany and Austria. German speakers also call it "Laugenbrezel" (lye pretzel).

Pupils also had the opportunity to see Birmingham's singing Christmas moose (Chris Moose), which has become a Christmas attraction in his own right and they were able to take a 'one horse ride' through the German Market on the traditional carousel.

*A small experience of Germany in England.*



# Mud, Mud, Glorious Mud...

It would be hard to beat last year's inaugural Year 13 Mud Run. The first of its kind at The Cotswold School, the 2015 Mud Run had plenty of mud, a water feature that challenged even the toughest of competitors and the, now infamous, dead badger that had to be removed before the race began...

2016, however, turned out to be bigger, better and a quite different story...and one that everyone – competitors, marshals and spectators alike – felt surpassed the success of the previous year.

Congratulations have to go, first and foremost, to the enthusiastic Year 13 students who took part, with every person literally throwing themselves at the obstacles. The first hurdle, named The Nice Netting, had been given a devilish twist by the school's site managers. These heroes, the masterminds behind the design of the arduous course, had forecast a lack of mud for this year's event and so they brought in the water sprinklers to ensure a dirty dunking. No competitor was going to escape getting muddy, especially as they had to tackle The Nice Netting a second time on the return lap by which time it was, as Hope Clarke declared: "Really muddy."

It is thanks to the ingenuity of the site managers that the Year 13 Mud Run has become such a success and a fitting final team event for those students who will be leaving us at the end of the academic year. Without the commitment and hard work of the site managers, there would be no course to run. The idea for the event came from last year's Year 13 students who asked Miss Rodrigues to organise their PSHE Day in December with a focus on revision skills and on ways to deal with stress. As a result, in the morning, the Year 13 students have workshops on Mindfulness, Stress Relief and Study Skills and, in the afternoon, the Mud Run gives them the opportunity to re-energise with some physical activity in an event that brings laughter – and a release of stress – to all. Thanks, too, must go to Jane Tanner whose tireless enthusiasm never falters for every Mud Run: she organises, administrates, inspires and motivates the students, ensuring the event is a success.

The students work in teams of any number, up to a maximum of 10 and the team time around the course (with time penalties if they miss out an obstacle...although no-one ever does) is the average time of the group (that is, the individual times are added together and then the total is divided by the number of people in the group). Another thank you

goes out to those students who worked as marshals on the day, having the difficult task of timing each member of the group. This year's winning team, Badboy Bhuna Badmen completed

two laps of the course in an average time of just over 12 minutes: an impressive run. But all competitors are winners: their grim determination to defeat The Father Christmas Climb which had some students slide from halfway up and end up flat on their backs at the bottom once more and then, once at the top, being rewarded with Christmas carols blasted from the seasonally decorated Land Rover. Winners, too, were the students who struggled through Tent City – it's dark and dirty...very dark and very dirty – to be congratulated by Mr White as they

emerged, blinking like moles, into the daylight. Tom Gustine's heroic attempts to avoid getting his feet wet have been captured by the camera as he makes his Tarzan-like "leap" across the Water Feature whilst Charlotte Crouch is pictured politely allowing her adversaries to be first to tackle the obstacles.

The Year 13 Mud Run is, without doubt, one of the pinnacles of being in your last year at The Cotswold School and, whilst only a few names

have been mentioned in this article, every student who took part in, who marshalled or who watched, deserves admiration for the determination and camaraderie shown on the course: qualities that will prove invaluable as they start their future careers.

**Well done everyone – you have impressed us all!**

*- Ms Rodrigues, Deputy Head of Sixth Form & Head of Yr13*



# Pulhams Christmas Card Competition

**Pupils were invited by Pulhams Coaches to design their company Christmas card this year.**

The theme this year was an open interpretation of Christmas. There were many entries, with the winning designs being made into 1,000 cards to be sold both by Pulhams and The Cotswold School, with all proceeds going to Sue Ryder.

The winners are:

*Carlotta Dunn and Ella Matthews 9IT (who created a design between them), Amelie Meaden 8KR, Milly Sargent 8MW,*

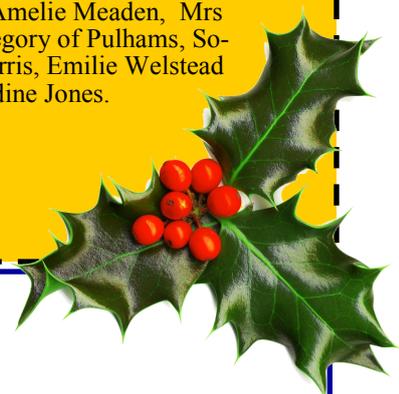
*Ellie Lawrence 8NL,  
Nadine Jones 9HG,  
Maisie Curran 8KR,  
Sophia Torris 7CLA,  
Emilie Welstead 9NH.*

We would like to thank Andy and Kathryn Pulham and Sue Gregory for organizing this competition and giving our pupils the opportunity to show off their art and design skills.

*- Mrs A Wardell,  
Teacher—Art & Design*



L-R: Ella Matthews, Carlotta Dunn, Amelie Meaden, Mrs Sue Gregory of Pulhams, Sophia Torris, Emilie Welstead and Nadine Jones.



## SECRET SANTA BOOK EXCHANGE

**Ever had trouble choosing a book for yourself? Well this Christmas, students signed up to take part in our Secret Santa book exchange.**

After filling in a slip about what type of books they like and dislike, these were then handed to the Librarian who matched them up with another participating student. The students then, with past library loans information to hand, thought about choosing a book for someone else. They had to think about the genre of the book, read the 'blurb' on the back cover, perhaps dip inside the book, and skim read to get a feel of the book and finally decide whether their recipient would like it. After choosing the book this was then handed back to the Librarian where it was

wrapped and tagged!

The activity has been a huge success engaging students and staff from all year groups, Mrs Williams has at the time of writing wrapped over 70 books!

*- Mrs Williams, School Librarian*



## PTA Christmas Raffle Winners

**We are delighted with the success of the first ever PTA Christmas Raffle which raised an astonishing, and much appreciated, £3,200 for the school!**

We hope to build on this success next year and would like to say a huge 'thank you' to all those who bought and sold tickets.

And the winners are:

- 1 Allison, No. 3778
  - 2 Malcom Wearing, No. 1892
  - 3 Dr N Chaudley, No. 3195
  - 4 Lucy Lane Fox, No. 2771
  - 5 Mrs Lucey, No. 868
  - 6 Hannah Robby, No. 3320
- There were six more lucky winners, each receiving a prize.

# Governors' Corner

We have welcomed two new governors recently - Mr Tim Redding takes over as staff governor from Mrs Katie Williams and Mrs Linda Rowley was elected following the resignation of Mrs Clare Locke. Thank you to them both for the time they have given to the governing body.

Mr Redding is Head of Science and Mrs Rowley was previously a primary head and is now a senior advisor for a multi academy trust of 7 schools. Biographies will be on the website shortly.

The most recent meeting was the annual opportunity for governors to see the school accounts and we were pleased to welcome the school auditor who presented them and led the discussion along with Mrs Tye, our new Chief Financial Officer. The accounts are on the website if you would like to take a look yourselves. Governors have also been busy attending the recent staff INSET day, the Careers Fayre and various school events as well as all the regular committee meetings.

On behalf of the governors can I send you all good wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

- Fran Hudson, Clerk to Governors

## News from the MFL Department

### The Modern Languages team have been very busy in recent weeks.

On a freezing cold day forty-five Year 9 students of German set off for Birmingham's annual Christmas market. The market - comprised of rows of wooden chalets, all beautifully decorated for Christmas, provides the perfect environment for our students to try out their German and to sample some typical German wares. Delicious sausages cooked in all manner of ways were as popular as ever as were the traditional gingerbread biscuits and *Lebkuchen*. Our pupils returned with a variety of German Christmas presents including woolly hats, tree decorations and beautifully decorated chocolates. As ever the fact that they made an effort to use their German went down very well with the stallholders. Thank you to Ms Brown for organising the trip.

In November we welcomed 20 French students from our partner school in Lannion on the first leg of our French exchange. Students

and families got together on the Saturday evening for a party which allowed everyone to network, and some joint activities between families were no doubt planned. Many families took their guests to Oxford and some went even further afield. The French pupils visited Stratford, Warwick, the Chipping Norton pantomime, Bath and of course enjoyed a cream tea close to home in Bourton having explored the village and its shops. Burford Wildlife Park remains a favourite too but this year the group had to put on a brave face in atrocious weather conditions! The French students and their English student hosts enjoyed a joint outing to London where time was spent at the Natural History Museum before the group moved on via a guided tour of the sights to the London Eye and a boat trip down the Thames. They spent a day in school too, exploring the differences between French and English school, doing a guided tour and spending time in lessons. All the penfriends got on really well and our group of partici-

pants is looking forward to the return leg in March. Many thanks to Mrs Moss for organising it so well once again and to both her and Mrs Kelman for hosting our fellow teachers.

Miss Tingle and Mrs de Mello recently took the A Level Spanish students up to London for an A Level study day which focussed on Spanish cinema. It included a viewing and discussion on the film they will do in the exam.

We have been busy sharing good practice with other schools recently. We have welcomed a colleague from Beaufort in Gloucester and a prospective trainee who spent a week with us shadowing a variety of lessons. Miss Tingle has been to Marling School in Stroud and Mrs Kelman and Ms Brown visited Balcarras. Finally we were pleased to welcome Laurie Baker, our link governor, who spent a day in the department. She observed lessons and met pupils and teachers during the course of a busy itinerary.



# Rotary Young Photographer of the Year 2016

## ROTARY COMPETITIONS

Each year, Rotary International runs a series of youth competitions with thousands of young people taking part across the country. This year Cotswold School students have enthusiastically taken part in the Young Chef, Young Photographer and Young Writer Competitions with fantastic result.

## PICTURE PERFECT

This year the Rotary Young Photographer Competition required entrants to submit 3 images on the theme 'Our World is Beautiful'.

The talent shown by our Cotswold School photographers was fantastic with the bar raised ever higher each year.

At Intermediate level, Saskia Homes (Year 9) and Oliver Price (Year 7) were highly praised for their beautiful images while the top prize for the Intermediate section went to Megan McMorris (Year 9).

At the Senior level, we had joint winners: Rob Austin (Year 11) and Sam Alvis (Year 12). As joint winners of the Senior age group. Sam has recently sold his landscape and wildlife photography at the AAA Exhibition which was staged at Laverton Village Hall. Rob, meanwhile, has also excelled in the British Wildlife Photography Awards 2016 where he featured in the youth category and received a 'highly commended'.

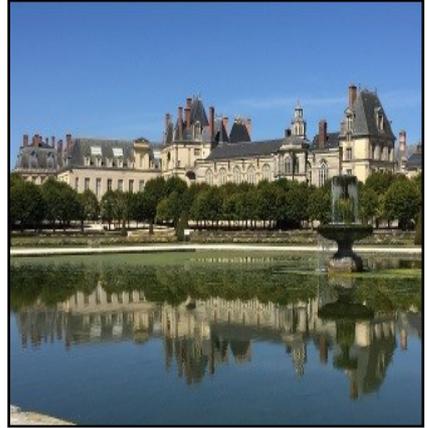


*Above: images by Rob Austin - joint Senior winner*

*Below and right: images by Sam Alvis - joint Senior winner*



Below: images by Megan McMorris - *Intermediate winner*



Congratulations to all involved! Sincere thanks to Mr M Boyes and the Rotary Club of the North Cotswolds for this opportunity and to Mrs Hannam for coordinating the competition in school.



L-R: Mrs Hannam, Saskia Homes, Rob Austin, Sam Alvis, Oliver Price and Mr Mike Boyes.  
Not pictured: Megan McMorris.

## NOTICE TO ALL PARENTS/CARERS

The consultation on the admission arrangements for the September 2018/19 intake is underway for schools in Gloucestershire. The consultation goes on until the end of December 2016 and any comments from you as parents/carers are most welcome. Gloucestershire County Council would value your feedback on fairness and clarity of the GCC policy or on any schools in which you may have an interest. Go to: [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/admissionsconsultation](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/admissionsconsultation) to have your say.

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this Christmas

Join, shop and raise here:  
[easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cotswoldschoolpta](http://easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cotswoldschoolpta)

We need you to...



**1. Join**  
Head to [easyfundraising](http://easyfundraising.org.uk), search for us to start raising.



**2. Shop**  
There are nearly 3,000 retailers on board, so pick the one you want and start shopping.



**3. Raise**  
After you've made your purchase, the retailer will make a donation to us at no extra cost whatsoever!

