

THE BRIDGE



Christmas 2014



Year 7

Dartmoor Residential



Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you enjoy our Christmas 2014 Newsletter and read about the wonderful events and activities. As I wrote in my recent letter to you, I am sure that it is not typical for schools to be able to say that in just one term, that their students have spoken to the Prime Minister via video link, visited Brittany, performed in an 'Evening of Creativity', been part of a professional production of Shakespeare in Bristol, camped on Dartmoor and had visits from three Olympic and Paralympic athletes in addition to the day to day events, activities and lessons!



It is a testament to the hard work and enthusiasm of the staff and students who together simply bring learning to life! The images and articles capture the experiences of the students so very well and nowhere better can this be seen than during the Year 7 Residential and Challenge Day at the start of term.

The 'Celebration of Creativity Evening' was simply inspirational. The students performed beautifully showcasing their Dance, Drama, Art & Photography, Music and Catering talents which impressed the guests who were able to join us for the evening. I must say a huge thank you again to the staff from all of these subject areas who worked so hard to ensure that we were able to share and celebrate each contribution and of course a special thank you to Mrs Antonello who co-ordinated the whole event. With guest performances from the students from St Nicholas Primary School, it really was a highlight of the Autumn Term. I am sure that the students who performed will continue to enjoy themselves completing coursework or simply developing their skills and talents in each area – thank you again for performing for us all.

Throughout the rest of the Newsletter, you will be able to see some of the other fantastic work that has gone on through the term including some superb contributions from our own students writing articles for you to enjoy. I am delighted that we can share this with you as a celebration of learning.

I would like to take this opportunity to say congratulations to the students who won awards at the Exeter in Excellence Awards Ceremony. I was so proud to invite each of the winning recipients up onto the stage to the applause of an audience of representatives from across the City. And for our cast to perform one of the songs from the forthcoming Adams Family production, a frightening taster of what I am sure will be an amazing show that we will welcome you all to come and enjoy in the new year.

Our Church Service at Pinhoe Church last Thursday was a lovely opportunity to come together and celebrate this wonderful time of year. With our Chaplains delivering Christmas assemblies throughout last week also, I was delighted to have the meaning of Christmas shared and celebrated within and beyond the College.

We aim to ensure that St Luke's is a College that inspires students in all subject areas and we wish to continue provide our students with academic challenge, opportunities to explore interests, pursue potential and individual achievement in whatever field of endeavour.

With this in mind, as mentioned in my recent letter to you, I am reviewing and revisiting many areas of the College's work including undertaking a behaviour review in the new year which will include consultation with parents/carers, students and staff. This will ensure that our systems and policies continue to lead to the very best outcomes for our students. I welcome your contributions and thank you in advance as I am sure that this will help us to take a step closer to outstanding in everything that we do!

I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you that the College will close at the slightly earlier time of 2:30pm on Friday and finally, thank you again for your continued support and on behalf of us all here at St Luke's, have a wonderful Christmas and best wishes for the New Year!

Yours sincerely

Dave Holt
Principal



Dartmoor Residential

Year 7

Our new Year 7s get their St. Luke's Experience off to a great start with an overnight residential on Dartmoor.



Each House group enjoyed a fantastic day and night in Princetown, with visits to the Prison and National Parks museums, storytelling, walks on the Moor and team building activities.



Darwin



Franklin



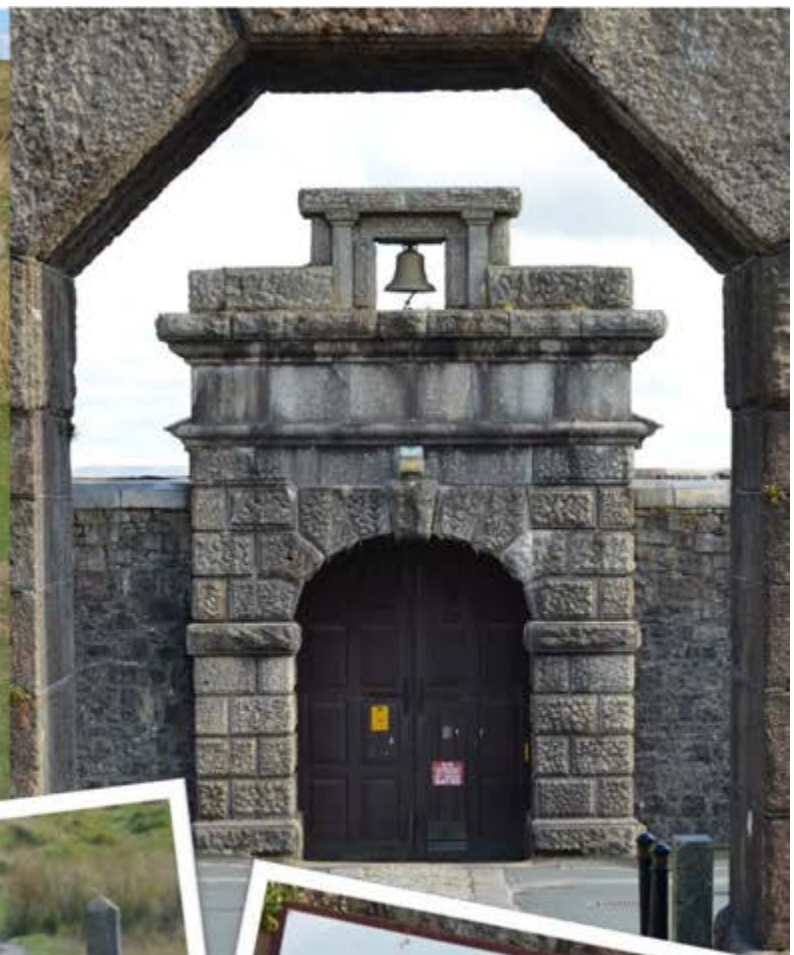


Galileo



Rutherford





Thanks to Mr Dolley for the photos



TEN TORS 2014

A great start to Ten Tors on Sunday 19th October with 28 walkers setting off for their first experience of Dartmoor. We once again have a 35 mile and 45 mile entry in to the event with 12 places up for grabs.

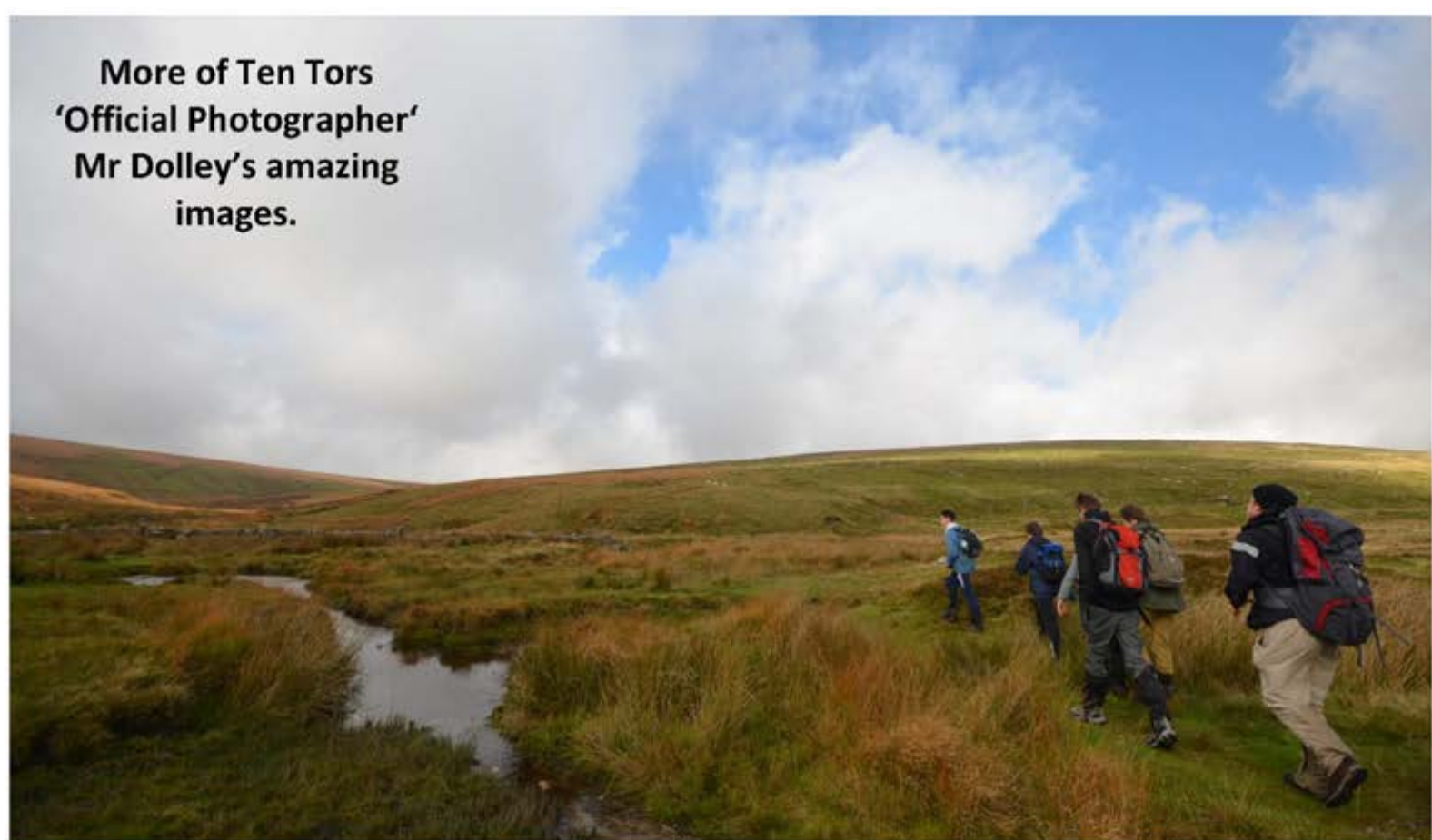
During this first walk we covered 10 miles across mixed terrain of Tarmac, heavy moorland and the good old Dartmoor bog. The weather was kind to us and stayed dry but the teams did have to contend with some heavy winds throughout the day.

All of the staff were delighted with the level of navigation attempted by all of the teams as well as the team spirit and leadership shown throughout the day. This bodes really well for the future and we are really looking forward to two successful teams completing this year's challenge.

Well done to every student that participated in this first walk. Great job.



**More of Ten Tors
'Official Photographer'
Mr Dolley's amazing
images.**







When the going gets tough.....

Challenge Day 2014



Staff and students alike proved they were up to the challenge in taking on our 2014 Challenge Day in September.



With the whole college off normal lessons staff and students spent the day using teamwork and problem-solving skills to tackle a number of creative challenges based upon Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

It was fantastic to see students of all ages working together and even some of our younger students taking over at times and bossing everyone else around, (including the teachers), as they organized their groups. Equally impressive were the incredibly innovative solutions some groups found to land their eggs safely when thrown off the atrium balcony or build free-standing balloon towers among many others.

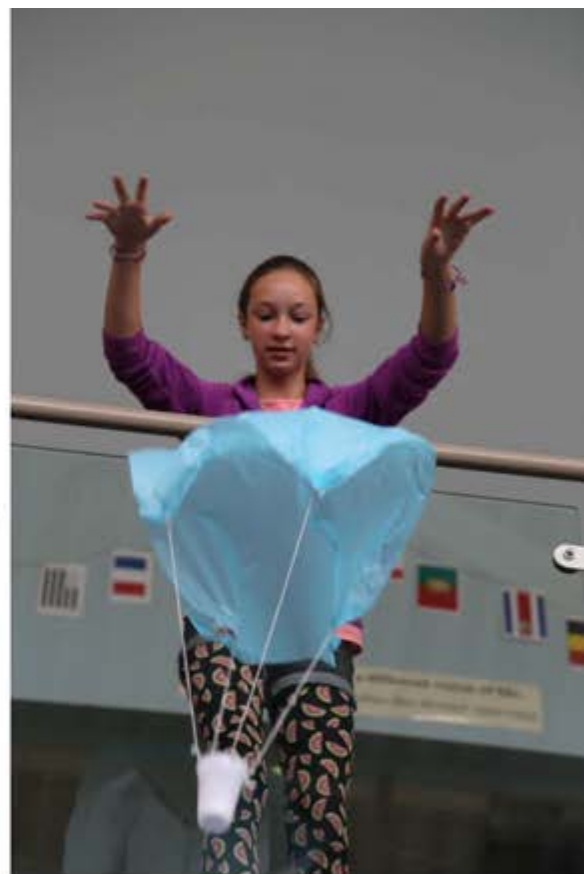


Credit must also go to the year 10 and 11 Gifted and Talented students who became the teachers for the day, presenting the tasks, scoring the groups and giving feedback on their strengths and the areas the groups needed to develop. Their maturity, enthusiasm and professionalism was superb and highlighted for all of us just how impressive our students are.

The winning House had the privilege of deciding which charity would receive the money raised from the non-uniform day. So congratulations to the winning House – Darwin - their chosen charity being the Devon Air Ambulance Trust.



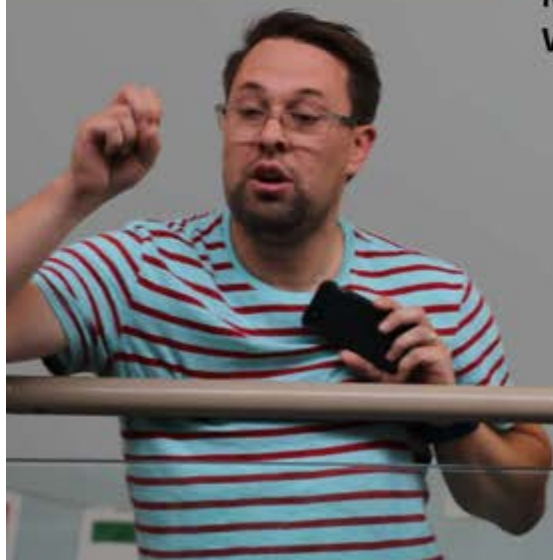
Congratulations also to the winning tutor group – Galileo who will soon be enjoying an afternoon off college as their prize.



***Are you up to the challenge?
Both of these are possible...***

1. Using only scissors, can you cut a hole in a piece of A4 paper that you can climb through?
2. Using only one sheet of A4 paper, scissors and glue, can you create a shape that has only one edge and one side?

Finally, a huge thank you to the staff whose skills and enthusiasm made the whole day happen: Mr. Pepperell, Mr. McNamara, Mr. Smith, Miss Daniels and Mrs Walker.



Celebration of Creativity

Written by Beth Beresford-Slinn and Ruby Cook (YR9 Students).

2014

On Wednesday 15th of October, St Luke's hosted their **Celebration of Creativity Evening**, showcasing the talent and diversity of many students passionate about their subject. Many performances from all aspects of the curriculum; Drama, Music, Art, Languages, Design & Technology, Dance and Gymnastics astounded the audience.



There were a variety of performances, including a drama performance from the GCSE Italian students, who incorporated their love of language into their sketch. There were many mesmerising singing performances that took place in the Atrium as well as some amazing GCSE Art work. The Gymnastics performance showed strength, flexibility and coordination in a range of skills. They were truly extraordinary. Those who were lucky enough to make it to the drama studio for the KS4 piece were captivated. The whole evening was a huge success, crowding the hall with the friends and family of the performers along with other students and their families.





A huge thank you to all the staff and students that gave up their time to rehearse and make the evening the success that it was. A special thank you to all the children from St Nicholas who came and showed off their dancing skills and performed, a 'very well done' to you all.

Year 7 History of Exeter Trip

This term Year 7 students have been exploring the History of Exeter. From Roman Exeter to the Blitz in 1942, students have been finding out just how fascinating our local history can be.

On the 6th and 7th November the students were able to visit some of Exeter's most significant historical sites including the Underground Passages, the City Wall, the Quay, the House that Moved and Rougement Castle.

Students were also given a special tour of Exeter Cathedral and were able to discover how belief is expressed through architecture. Students even had the chance to demonstrate their creativity by learning how to make brass rubbings! These two successful and thoroughly enjoyable days have helped strengthen the knowledge of our students and the interest and enthusiasm shown inside and outside of the classroom has been absolutely superb! It was a real pleasure to take our students on the trip and they really did themselves and the college proud, well done Year 7!



Castles

Whilst looking in depth at what Exeter was like during the Middle Ages students were given the opportunity to create their very own medieval castle!



Displaying brilliant creativity and historical accuracy, students set to work on designing and making a collection of Motte and Bailey, Stone Keep and Concentric castles over October half-term.



Students used an interesting range of materials including cardboard, wood, Lego and even sponge cake! The Year 7s produced some exceptional work that they should be extremely proud of. These impressive castles are a very welcomed addition to the History classrooms at St Luke's!



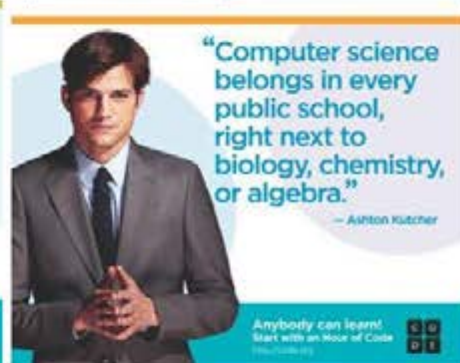
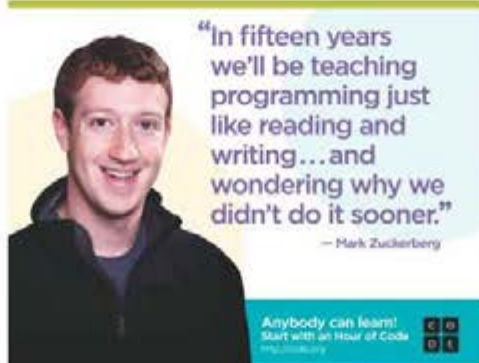
ICT HOUR OF CODE

For the second year running, we were very proud to take part in the Hour of Code at St Luke's. This year, we had an amazing opportunity to help launch the Hour of Code nationally with a webchat with Mr David Cameron, Prime Minister at 10 Downing Street. What an amazing opportunity for our students! A very proud moment for us all.

We live in a world surrounded by technology. And we know that whatever field our students choose to go into as adults, their ability to succeed will increasingly hinge on understanding how technology works. But only a tiny fraction of us are learning computer science, and less students are studying it than a decade ago.

That's why our entire school is joining in on the largest learning event in history: The Hour of Code, during Computer Science Education Week (Dec. 8-14). Last year, 15 million students tried computer science in one week. This year, we're joining students worldwide to reach 100 million students!

Our Hour of Code is a statement that St Luke's is ready to teach these foundational 21st century skills.



Safer Internet Day 2015

One to look out for! Save the date...
Tuesday 10th February 2015



The Tech Partnership

St Luke's ICT & Computing Department have been working with The Tech Partnership within GCSE Computing lessons. The Tech Partnership is a growing network of employers, collaborating to create the skills to accelerate the growth of the digital economy.

Students have had access to a range of new resources and some of our Year 10 students featured in a video for the Tech Partnership. This was a very exciting day, with fantastic results.



Common Sense Media

Members of staff in the ICT & Computing department have been implementing a new scheme of work in Digital Literacy, with Common Sense Media. You can see more about their brilliant work at www.common sense media.org There are lots of great resources for families about staying safe online.



GCSE French Trip to Brittany, France

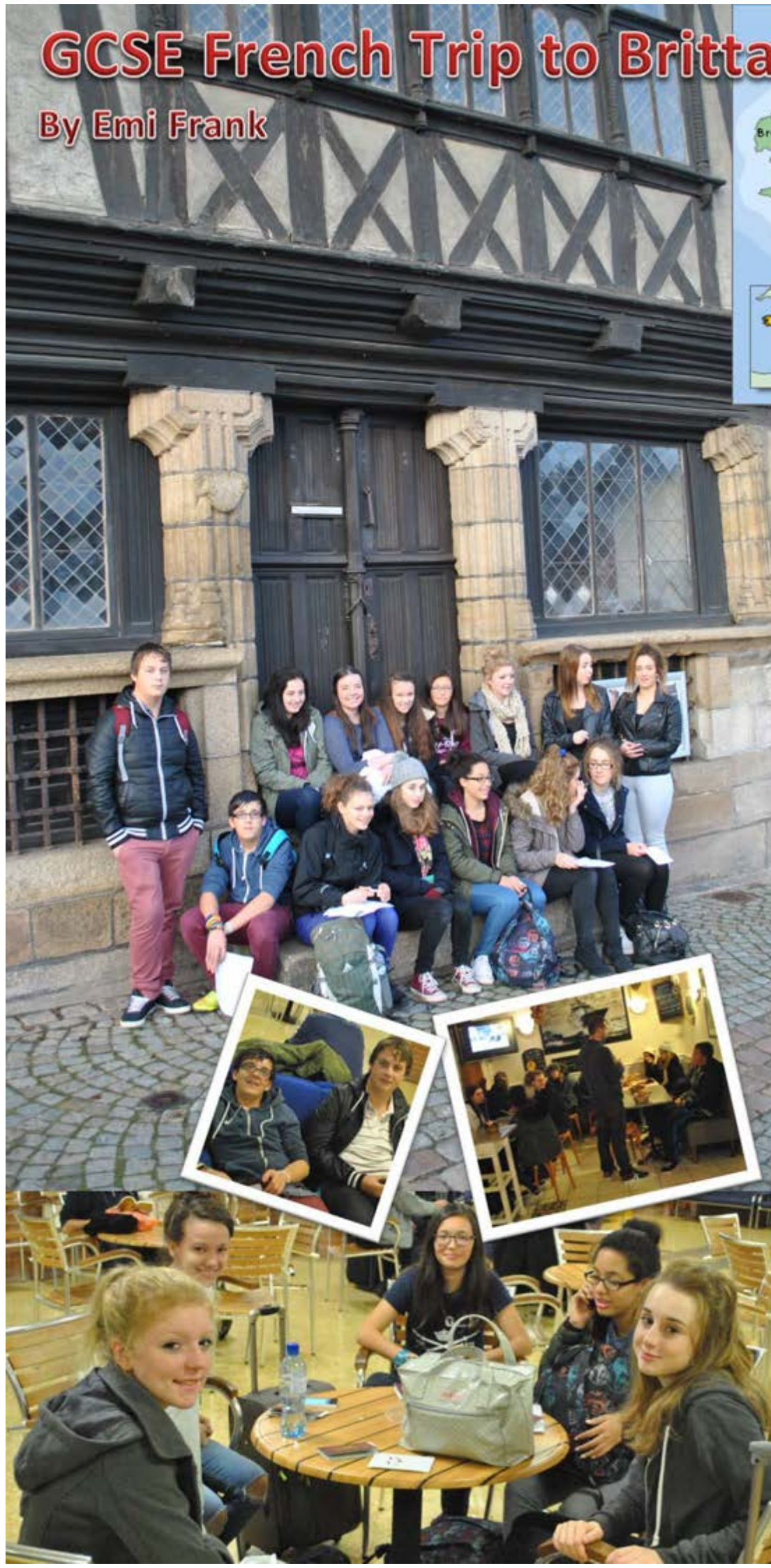
By Emi Frank



In October, 14 students, taking GCSE French, travelled to north-west France, known as Brittany; this was to improve our ability to speak French. We were accompanied by Mr Giraudon and Mrs Shepherd.

Our trip started at 5pm, after school. The train was very busy, and before we could even find our seats the train began to move. ... We had cabins of 4; the cabins had pull-down bunk beds, a TV and a very compact toilet, sink and shower. As we were making ourselves at home we were casually watching a bit of David Attenborough in the background.

We awoke on Friday and left the ferry at 6:30am to catch a minibus to have a very early breakfast in the town of Roscoff. The breakfast was very nice but the waiter was clearly briefed by the teachers as he would only speak French at first, but he ended up speaking some English because 7 in the morning is not the time to be speaking another language!



This was followed with a trip to Océanopolis; this is a very large aquarium in Brest. We saw many cute penguins, some seals showing off, starfish which you could pet, a couple of miniature sharks and much more cool and interesting underwater life. After a long and eventful day we finally arrived at the anticipated auberge de jeunesse (Youth hostel). To be honest it was not the best hostel ever but we did soon adapt to our rooms.

On Saturday we were driven to Morlaix, a picturesque medieval town to see the house of 'Duchesse Anne' the 'Maison à Pondalez'. Like many, I bought a crepe which was delicious. Later we went to the 'Chèvrerie Le Baradozie'- a local goat farm. , then a town called Lannion to do a treasure hunt with some French students learning English. Our group was put with a boy called Marlo; he was hilarious although he spoke hardly any English.



On Sunday Mr Giraudon suggested we take a short walk through a little forest. We then found out that we were being taken to his parents' house which was hidden within the trees. His parents and his adorable dog greeted us kindly and invited us into their house, which was very beautiful. We had lunch in a village restaurant which was pumpkin soup as a starter and chicken and chips as a main.

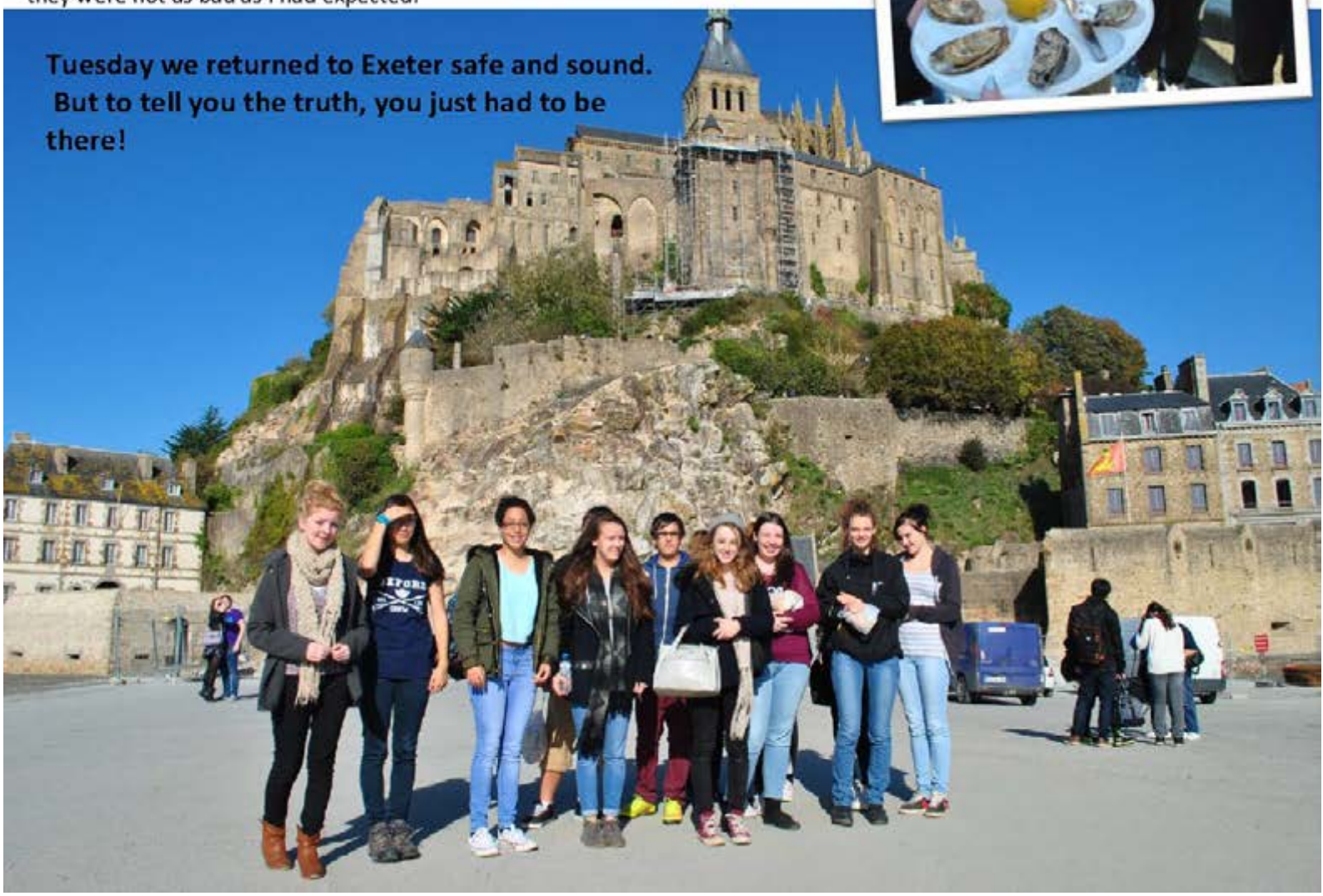


In the afternoon we discovered the pink granite coast which is made up of unusually pink tinted sand and rocks. This is one of only three places in the world where this unusual coloured beach is found.

On Monday we departed for Mont Saint Michel which is an island with a monastery, an abbey and many tourist shops. The island was very beautiful and it was a very religious place containing very intricate designs and features. In the afternoon we visited St Malo, a sea side town. A couple of others and I were feeling brave as St.Malo is known for its oysters. Mr Giraudon prepared some oysters and I thought they were not as bad as I had expected.



**Tuesday we returned to Exeter safe and sound.
But to tell you the truth, you just had to be there!**





Potty about Potter



Curriculum Enrichment Week 2014

In the days of Curriculum Enrichment week St Luke's held an activity named Potty about Potter. Many students attended and the teachers; Mrs Balue, Miss Musson, Miss Godard and many other Teaching Assistants made the week enjoyable and satisfying. On Tuesday 25th Potty about Potter entered the world of witchcraft and wizardry. We travelled to the Warner Bros Studios in London and had a day filled with magic, mystery and amazement.

by Ellie-May Phillips



The coach was filled with anticipation and excitement as we turned into the Warner Bros car park. Everyone was thrilled to be going inside.

We got given tickets and a mini passport as we entered the building. My ticket had Hedwig the owl on it. A tour guide led us into a room and gave us a brief idea of the activities that would occur during the day. After the short speech, two big doors opened and everyone rushed to see what would be revealed behind them. We were on the film set, it was amazing! Everything you could imagine from Harry Potter was there.



We could ride on a broom stick and even walk across the Hogwarts entrance bridge. It was absolutely spectacular. We thought this couldn't get better, we were absolutely wrong!

The next building we went into was breath taking. We were standing in Diagon Alley. I was stunned. I couldn't believe I was standing outside Olivander's Wand Shop-it was like I was dreaming.

As I walked further down the alley my excitement was battling to release itself from my body. Everyone in my group was proud to be a Potter fan. It was the best experience so far in my life and I have never been able to express my love for a fictional world, until now.

On the coach journey back, many pupils, including me were so privileged to have gone on this trip and I would definitely recommend this activity to students in the future.

Whilst battling my excitement and having the time of my life, I managed to ask some people on what they thought.

Here are a few quotes that Potter fans told me...

"Even though I've been here before, I'm still having as much fun as I did the first time I came."

"Wow what an amazing trip, really want to do this again next year!"

"This is exquisite! The amount of detail that has gone into this is exceptional."



1984

BY GEORGE ORWELL

A NEW ADAPTATION CREATED BY ROBERT ICKE AND DUNCAN MACMILLAN



The Observer, The Times, Financial Times, Time Out,
The Guardian, The Independent, The Daily Telegraph



'CHILLING, INGENUOUS
100 MINUTES.
I URGE YOU TO SEE
THIS STUNNING SHOW'

The Times

Reviewed by Maria Bors

1984 is a beautifully written book published in 1949. George Orwell tried to show his opinion on how communism, which was going on at the time, would demolish our society, creating a very harsh system of living. He tried very hard to make people understand that if communism continued things would only get worse. His thoughts were very well presented in this mind twisting book. The story left me with a lot of unanswered questions in my mind.

The story follows Winston Smith as he struggles to find out more about Big Brother and his own existence in that complicated universe. Things are very confusing at the beginning but in the end it untangles into an unexpected conclusion.

Fortunately students from St Luke's Science and Sports College were able to see the adapted play at the Northcott Theatre on the 16th of October. The props and background were extremely realistic and the lightning and sound effects kept the atmosphere going all the way through the play. Huge congratulations to the director for making the play so captivating and chilling.

We thank all the staff members who made this experience possible.



**BIG BROTHER IS
WATCHING YOU**

War is Peace
Freedom is Slavery
Ignorance is Strength

Aspire 14



The results from this year's Aspire programme confirms it as being judged a complete success by those attending. The aims of the programme were –

- Promote Success
- Build Teamwork
- Encourage Positive Behaviour
- Promote Leadership Skills
- Build Confidence
- Assist in Transition from Primary to Secondary School
- Have Fun

All of these aims were met through a number of activities held over a 10 week period, culminating in the Aspire 14 students hosting a games event for over 100 year 2 students from our feeder schools. Feedback from the year 2 teachers was that the Aspire students had done themselves proud, and demonstrated their completion of the aims.

Other activities included 2 sessions at Forest School in Shillingford St George, Orienteering around Killerton House and taking part in activities led by the Captain of the England Blind Football Squad (local man, Keryn Seal) and The British Olympic Silver Medalist (Beijing, 2008) Heather Fell (pictured below). To celebrate their success, we enjoyed a session of Clip n' Climb on Exeter Quay.

Mr Hurley

Project Shoebox

On Friday 21st November, 12 students visited the project shoebox warehouse. Throughout the visit, the students learnt to hand pack and wrap boxes.

They distributed items around the warehouse and were given more information about the charity and its background.

There were many volunteers dotted throughout the warehouse, all of whom were willingly giving up their time for such a fantastic cause.

Katie Richardson and Beth Beresford-Slenn



A big thanks to the Staff of Sainsbury's Pinhoe who also collected boxes for us.

Phoebe Stanton adds: "Our visit to help pack the shoe boxes made me think. I felt quite emotional. It made me think of what I have. For most of the children who receive the boxes, it may be the first and only present they will ever have in their life time. That is why it is important to collect things through the year and donate them. I will be thinking of the children who get our boxes on Christmas morning."





On Children in Need Day the students pulled out all the stops for local charities and the national appeal. The school held its usual non uniform day which raises donations and awareness.

This year Rutherford and Franklin Houses decided to do more and we had a range of activities at lunchtime. Mr Hallam was between the sticks for 'Beat the Keeper', the sport leaders ran a 'Netball Shooting Challenge' and teachers from across the College volunteered to be 'Splatted' for a fee.



At the same time Franklin students ran a human fruit machine stall and Rutherford student Henry Farr brought in a strength testing striker machine as well as selling huge quantities of popcorn and sweets.

Throughout the day Rutherford House council took part in an endurance cycling event, cycling 110km and raising over £100.

The whole day was immense fun and allowed us to contribute £650 to charity. Well done to all of the student organisers.



Grammar Gremlins

Written by
Louise Jones



"Please drive slow."

It would seem ridiculous to suggest that a signpost could make someone so furious, but not to Mrs Alex German. Mrs German was an English teacher on a mission – to cure the world of bad grammar, but it was ultimately futile, people would always make mistakes. However, this did not faze Mrs German. She had already corrected the local car park's *"Cars will be toad!"* sign with her trusty marker pen, so it now reads *"Cars will be towed!"*

But now a new threat appeared, this time on Glenham Road in the form of a mangled attempt to tell people to driver slower. New challenges faced Mrs German on this task; a group of unusually short police officers vigorously patrolled the area in search of vandals. She had meticulously planned this task, scouted the area and was now ready to correct and improve. **Glenham Road, 8.00pm.**



One of the particularly small officers stood firmly opposite the sign, his enormous ears picking up the slightest of sounds. Mrs German shivered, in the brisk November winds. She tightened the grip on her marker pen. It had been her closest ally for many years, especially during the 'sandwiches' incident in 2011, when a foolish shop owner thought that sandwiches were dreams involving beaches. Mrs German silently giggled at her own joke, in the rain, while hiding in a bush and staring at a sign with incorrect grammar. What a life she had. Meanwhile, the vertically challenged police officer was half asleep with boredom. This was her chance! With one fluid motion Miss German bolted to the post, scribbled "ly" on the sign and ran off before the police officer could think "Why does an insane woman have to write on a signpost at 8 o'clock on a Tuesday evening whenever I'm on duty?"



Miss German slept well that night, but she knew there was more to do to make the world the punctuation paradise she dreamed of. Dread filled the air in the following week, she felt thoroughly unnerved by the police officer at Glenham Road. His enormous ears and tiny stature reminded her of a goblin or maybe a gremlin. Today she would tackle the challenge of inverted commas that were used for emphasis in a restaurant, rather than to infer sarcasm.



"This is a 'non-smoking' restaurant," was being corrected today, and it had personal significance to her, as she was there when it was put up. The employee who stuck it to the window was unusually short with large ears **very** similar to the police officer from last Sunday. Unfortunately, her trusty marker pen had run out, but she had lots of tipex to cover up the evil inverted commas that annoyed her so much. The result was a resounding success – she even explained to the head chef what was wrong with it and he agreed completely.

Strangely the goblin-like employee was nowhere to be seen, but she knew he had a role to play in this war with grammar along with the police man at Glenham.

Miss German felt surrounded by bad punctuation. In her own English corridor there was a poster that said *"carrier bag's are bad for the environment,"* It was a classic case of using apostrophes to make words plural, and irritated her greatly. She was surprised to see a short man with large ears walk past her that very minute. She knew the cases were connected, *"There must be some sort of conspiracy against grammar and spelling that involved the gremlin-like men."* she muttered. Suddenly Miss German felt a small, cold hand grab her arm as a group of the gremlins attacked her. Trying to release her arm she screamed **"What do you want from me!"**

" We WaNt tO SpreaD bAd GrAmMAr AnD AnNoy aLL enGLiSh TeacHers!" they called in unison. Grammar Gremlins were behind it all, they are the source of all bad grammar, punctuation and spelling. So next time you're doing an English exam, watch out for the Grammar Gremlins...

Characters in this story are fictional, but may be based on real people.



PETER

Evie Stripp

Peter was lying face down in the dirt. His hair was damp, dishevelled and plastered over his scalp like ripples through quicksand. The nape of his neck was pale with splatters of brown, grey and red, half obscured by a hunch mountain range of shoulder. Peter's back was bound tightly by a teary tributary which meandered slowly around the cause of death. His trousers, already a sandy brown, were now stained with a sticky array of red and yellow fluids. His shoes played dead.

I stooped over and gently rolled him onto his back.

Glued to his forehead in messy clumps of earth was Peter's fringe. Puddles of murky water took the place of his eyes next to a mudslide nose. Just above an icicle of bone and flesh was a cave with a few stalactites knocked loose onto the soft, sandstone floor. Sticking out of the second tributary bend on his torso was a man-made tree branch, hampered on exit by a pool of magma just beneath the surface of the riverbed. Pitiful twigs stuck off from it as if attempting to break free.

I pulled on my plastic doctor's gloves, now the gloves of a tree surgeon, and removed it, letting the lava flow freely. I felt dizzy and sick at the sight of his warm blood on my plastic fingers.

Peter had rocked into the Mount St Helen's volcano observatory like an igneous rock come to show me how to feel the fire of life. I remember his tasselled blonde hair, which resembled a messy stack of wheat, and his deep-set blue eyes that swirled with tropical storms when he felt angry or became extremely passionate about something. He was tall and stocky like a boulder, with hands and feet as coarse as bark and as wide as tree trunks. The blue shirt he always wore failed to conceal the huge ridge of rock that covered his chest. Above all, I remember his smile: a miracle capable of shifting the clouds covering my heart so I might see the sun.

I couldn't bear to see him lying there. It tore my world apart. A waterfall began to erode a gorge down my face and I sub ducted my lower lip under my upper in a bid to keep myself from screaming. An earthquake began in my body, causing me to drop the piece of wood that had killed him in a pile of ashes at my feet.

I crouched down in the earthquake defence position: a small ball of fragile human against earth shattering tremors. Pushing the base of my palms into my eyes I created my own, personal solar eclipse. Darkness. I remembered:

He was leaving. I tugged at his sleeve. He grappled with me and his shirt left with a fault line. I jumped up and kissed him. He left with an oxbow lake of lipstick skewed across his lips. My passion, which was threatening to climax the seismic waves of my heart, was not returned. Desperate now, I pulled him close like plates moving on a collision boundary. Harshly, he pushed me away like a constructive one. The volcano that formed burned, livid in my insides. Magma flowed out of my mouth and scorched his eyes, prompting volumes of water to be dropped on them. I reached for his hand, a gesture that now sought only forgiveness rather than passion but it retreated to his side. He turned and meandered out of the doorway. He meandered away from me.

He left me. I was blinded. I snapped. I seized. I threw. He still left.

**THE
ROSE
BOWL
AWARDS**
FOR AMATEUR
DRAMA & MUSIC



The amazing talented Miss Molly Emerson was voted 'Best Youth Actor' at this year's glittering Rose Bowl Awards.

The Rose Bowl Awards aim to encourage excellence in the amateur theatre within the South West of England by providing a forum in which performers, directors and technicians alike can aspire to high standards of achievement commensurate with their professional counterparts.

The Awards, presented annually since 1963 and described as the 'Oscars of the South West' for the amateur stage, are open to any amateur dramatic or operatic club in Bristol and surrounding area including Devon, Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire. Award winners are nominated by a panel of adjudicators who are chosen for their extensive qualifications and experience in the amateur and professional theatre, either through performing or teaching.

Nominations for the 18 Award categories are announced in August and the winners are presented with an engraved crystal Rose Bowl at the Awards ceremony in October, attended by over 400 representatives of Clubs entering for an award .



As Glenda in the Wizard of Oz

Singing for the Queen



We Will Rock You!

**SHE'S A
KILLER
QUEEN**

MAY 7 8 9



Eden Project Photography





*A Merry
Christmas
from
St. Luke's
Students and
Staff*

A big thank you to Dean, for his help decorating the Atrium Christmas tree this year.