



Vinehall School

RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT

Academic Year 2005 – 2006

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Year 8 Scholarships and Awards

Parents will be aware that Vinehall is celebrating another year of academic success. Our Year 8 pupils have done us all proud with sixteen pupils gaining a collection of twenty-one scholarships to senior schools and the Common Entrance candidates again achieving an impressive number of A grades. The following won scholarships to their senior schools:

Phoebe Ashenheim Lucy Baker	Battle Abbey King's, Canterbury	Top Academic Scholarship Academic Exhibition and Art Exhibition
Edward Bridge Scott Collier James Floyd Eleanor Hazael	Worth Lancing College Tonbridge St. Leonard's, Mayfield	Top Academic Scholarship Ken Shearwood Award* Academic Scholarship Major Academic Scholarship and Art Scholarship
William Howard-Smith Llywelyn James Savannah Lawson Pascale Hughes	King's, Canterbury Eastbourne College St Leonard's, Mayfield Eastbourne College	David Gower Award Art Exhibition Top Academic Scholarship Major Academic Scholarship And Art Scholarship
Joshua Powell Lewis Saunders Peter Weston-Smith Sophie Whaley	Cranbrook Cranbrook Eastbourne College Benenden	Academic Scholarship Academic Scholarship Art Exhibition* Academic Scholarship and Art Exhibition
Alexander Whincup Alexander Whincup Lucy Wylie-Carrick	Sevenoaks Cranbrook Downside	Academic Scholarship Academic Scholarship* Deius Agius All-rounder Award

*These awards were not taken up because the pupils will go to different schools.

The following pupils secured places at their respective schools on the strength of some very good marks in the scholarship papers:

Tom Harvey	Tonbridge School
Bradley Hayes	Sevenoaks School
James Mursell	Sevenoaks School

This year's 13+ leavers go to the following schools: Battle Abbey, Benenden, Claverham, Cranbrook, Downside, Eastbourne College, Eton, King's Canterbury, Oundle, St. Leonard's Mayfield, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Worth.

Other Leavers

Congratulations to Helena Cameron who won an academic and art scholarship to St Leonard's Mayfield at 11+ and to Tobin Cleary on his choristership to Westminster Cathedral Choir School.

Francesca McIntyre is taking up a place at Tonbridge Girls' Grammar School. Kate Petty, Louise Stockdale and Antonia Bohane are taking up places at St. Leonard's Mayfield. Stephanie Colvin, Lance Bassett and Oz Wedmore are moving on to Claverham Community College and Gemma Field is also leaving. Our Spanish visitors Gonzalo Sunyer, Ignacio Moreno and Pedro Orejas and our French pupil Fergus Sindall all return home as planned.

Also leaving us at the end of the year are Tristan d'Agar, Tony Moon, Giles Hart, Robert Harvey and Archie Ridpath. We wish all our leavers every success in the future.

Junior Mathematical Challenge

In November pupils in years 5 and 6 took part in the Primary Mathematics Challenge that is set by the Mathematics Association. This year over 111000 children in over 2900 schools participated. Forty of our pupils were happy recipients of very colourful certificates : 7 Gold, 14 Silver and 19 Bronze

GOLD

Joshua Huntington-Rainey, Alexander Hunt, Philippa Moore, Claire MacFadyen, James Wardle, Jack Newman, Francesca McIntyre.

SILVER

William Furlong, Dominic Williamson, Joshua Jones, William Barrington, Eleanor Judd, Helena Cameron, Madeleine Kowitz, Kate Petty, Andrew McCredie, Matthew Porter, Samuel Piper, Alexander Pugh, Edward Rogers, Frederick Williams

BRONZE

Cecilia Gray, Nicholas McWilliams, Molly Nicolson, Fiona Rose, Archie Todd, Peter Stollery, Charles Williamson, Arthur Walsh, Angus Berkeley, Oliver Giles, Imogen Canetty-Clarke, Frederick Gregory, Harry Coombes, William Orr, Andrew Everall, Gemma Taylor, Robert Harvey, David Winter, Freya Maynard.

In April of this year 53 pupils were entered for the UK Junior Mathematical Challenge and 43 won awards. Edward Bridge and Joshua Powell did so well that they qualified for the gruelling Junior Olympiad.

GOLD

Edward Bridge (best in the school), Warat Thavisin, Joshua Powell, Lucy Baker, Pascale Hughes, Alexander Moore, James Floyd, Lewis Saunders, Jamie Poulter, Savannah Lawson, Eleanor Hazael

SILVER

Tristan D'Agar, Buster Russell, Alex Pugh, Alex Whincup, Alex Hunt, Tom Harvey, Bradley Hayes, Llywelyn James, George Wardle, William Furlong, James Mannion, Alex Cowan, Nicholas McWilliams, Christopher Boshier, James Mursell, Fiona Rose, Joshua Huntington-Rainey, James Wardle

BRONZE

Jake Willis-Fleming, Edward Rogers, Calum Marris, Richard Rogers, Isobel Wingrad, Samuel Piper, Andrew McCredie, Jamie Johnson, William Barrington, Oliver Giles, Dominic Williamson, Ben Mannington, Claire MacFadyen

This has been another successful year for our young mathematicians and the names and photographs of the above pupils will be added to the rather over-crowded roll of honour boards in Room 16.

English Speaking Board

This year all the junior children achieved a merit or above in their grade 1 individual exam. Twelve distinctions were achieved, thirty-six merit pluses and four merits. In the junior group speaking (Year 3) all three forms achieved distinctions.

Townsend Warner History Competition

As usual, Vinehall entered a team for this highly competitive annual inter-prep schools history competition. There were around 750 candidates from leading prep schools and this year Vinehall came first! We were presented with the school shield. James Mannion was best in school, coming third in the country.

General Knowledge Competition

We extended our activities beyond the school and enter the SATIPS GK quiz with a team of twenty pupils. We also entered the South East IAPS GK John Bickmore Shield. The qualifying round was held at Yardley Court and despite some stiff opposition from Rose Hill, Derwent Lodge, Yardley Court and Marlborough House, our team comprising Seth Maynard (Capt) Alex Moore, William Orr and Ben Crisford scored a magnificent 64, winning the event and qualifying for the final held at Sevenoaks. In the final we were third with 78 to Kings' Rochester with 79 and New Beacon with 81 ahead of Junior King's Canterbury (the highest qualifiers) and Wellesley House. We now have a target for the future!

Our own GK Final was very closely contested as ever and the result was not decided until the final round. This year the event was won by Paxton, with Ashton a close second. This result was most fitting as the Paxton team was captained by Edward Bridge who has been in the GK final every year during his time in the main school. He is the worthy winner of the GK cup this year!

This term the GK competition was brought to an end slightly earlier than the end of term to try to relieve some of the end of term pressure on the staff and pupils. This meant that the top scores were lower than normal but nonetheless proved an impressive commitment by the participants. The overall top scorers were for Juniors, Florence Williams with 33, Middles, Arthur Walsh 40 and Seniors, Richard Rogers 26. Richard had also found time to organise and lead the GK helpers this year and proved to be a terrific support to Mrs Dix.

STAFF

A summary of staff movements at the end of this term:

Elizabeth Wells is retiring after nine years as a Year 1 teacher in the Pre Prep and we welcome in her place Mrs Olivia Aylott.

Dr Teesdale is retiring after sixteen years at Vinehall as Head of Science and is going to Malawi to teach after Christmas. Dr Jarrett will be taking over his role.

Jenny Bolt (Head of Art) and Rick Bolt (computer technician) are both retiring and going to live in France. Svitlana Monckton has been appointed as our new Head of Art and we are currently advertising for another computer technician who will work under Mark Harman and alongside Will Willard.

Paul Ralph, as you know, has already left and is being replaced by James Odell as Head of French, from Godolphin School. We are grateful to Florence Powell, Lesley Raymond and Laurie Graizeau who have taken on extra work in the French department during the latter part of this term.

Dan Hill leaves us to complete his teacher training at Sackville School.

John Newman has been promoted to a coaching position in the PE department. He will take a lead with the juniors and their sporting development and we are delighted that Mr. Newman will be able to give more time to the PE Department.

Oliver Dorman, who runs Vinehall's carpentry, will also become a fuller member of the teaching staff and will be able to give more time to supporting the technology and art teaching in class.

Michelle King is leaving to take up her new appointment at Bodiam Manor next term.

Alex Farley leaves us, taking up the position of Director of Music at Lancing College Junior School and Richard Lakin joins us from Newlands.

Henrietta King, who stood in for Jenny Shepherd as an EFL teacher during Mrs. Shepherd's sabbatical, will be leaving at the end of term as Jenny Shepherd intends to return to Vinehall in the Michaelmas Term. Similarly, Jenny Chishick, who has been covering Tessa Richardson's teaching in Pre-Prep, leaves again at the end of this term, as does Lesley Raymond who has been covering Paul Ralph's French teaching.

The Revd John Lambourne becomes School Chaplain in September. This is an exciting development and we look forward to having our own ordained member of staff, someone to whom the school community can turn for support and who will have time to listen. Father John intends to establish family Eucharist services at Vinehall and these will be listed in the termly calendar.

PRE-PREP

Life in the Pre-Prep has been busy and vibrant as ever. The staff in the Pre-Prep have worked especially hard during Mrs. Hannan's extended absence this year. Mrs. Chishick stepped-in to Reception so that Mrs. Richardson could take on the role of Acting Head full time and Mrs. Richardson has done an outstanding job. Music and drama have flourished in Pre-Prep with a traditional Year 2 Christmas play, Year 1's 'Pinocchio', which was the popular Mrs. Wells's final production before her well-earned retirement. Reception performed 'Bin Bears' an adaptation by Mrs. Burgess and Nursery and Kindergarten presented 'In the Garden'. Under Mrs. Everist's direction, the Pre-Prep children have performed in a number of impressive concerts across the year and singing club has been established, too.

A great highlight of the year in Pre-Prep was the Pre-Prep Arts Festival Week during which a wide range of arts, crafts, visitors and musical performances delighted and inspired the children. It was a huge success and will become an annual event, thanks to Mrs. Richardson's organisation and the support of many parents and members of staff.

In sports, almost all the children are out of armbands and ballet and funky dance groups have demonstrated their skills. There was an impressive Year 2 gym display and George Mannion and Finnian Piper set new athletics records for Sports Day.

There have been outings to Wilderness Wood, Cranbrook Mill, Underwater World, Bedgebury Pinetum and Pizza Express!

The Early Morning Club has developed its repertoire of old fashioned games and activities and next year, along with the After School Club to 5.30 p.m., there will be a new 4 o'clock supervision option so that parents can collect their Pre-Prep children at 4 p.m. at no extra cost.

An extension to the Nursery and Kindergarten will be built over the summer and we aim to further improve the delightful outdoor learning area for Pre-Prep across the next academic year.

We are sorry to say good-bye to Abigail Banks, Harry and Alistair Bett and Felix Marshall.

YEAR 3 TIMETABLE

Next year's Year 3 pupils will trial a shorter day, finishing at 4 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, in a bid to alleviate tiredness and bridge the gap between the 3.15 p.m. finish

in Pre-Prep and the 5.20 p.m. finish in the Prep. School. There will be clubs (at no extra charge) till 5.20 p.m. for those who wish or need to stay longer.

SETTING AND STREAMING

As children move up through the school they are placed in sets for maths, French and Latin according to their ability and performance in those subjects. They are set in maths from Year 4, in French from Year 5, and in Latin from Year 6. The sets are continually monitored and children are moved between sets whenever the need arises. There are parallel forms in the Prep School from Years 3 to 5. In Year 6 a top stream is made (this year it will be 6M) and two parallel forms. All of the children are continually monitored for progress during this time and at the end of Year 6 there is further movement between the top set and the two parallel classes resulting in the formation of a scholarship form and two Common Entrance forms for Years 7 and 8.

ART

It has been an outstanding year for the art department with seven pupils gaining art scholarships.

Throughout the year there have been several events in which the art department has been involved. We hosted two exhibitions from public schools, Eastbourne College and Benenden, and four Year 6 boys spent a day at Eastbourne College when they invited us to their Arts Activity Day. Local primary schools came to Vinehall for an art course for Gifted and Talented children which culminated in a sketching session at Bodiam Castle.

Sarah Raven judged our decorated pumpkin competition and Neil Buchanan judged our space craft competition. Mrs Jeremy came into a scholars' evening class and showed the children the process of developing the graphics for a new brand image for a company.

There was an excellent Scholars' Exhibition when the scholars were able to celebrate with their families their successes, as well as a whole school exhibition at the end of the summer term.

Once again the department and talented mothers painted all the scenery for the school productions plus a giant saucy postcard for the summer fete. We wish Mrs. Bolt a fond farewell. She has been an inspiration to our young artists and a great professional and supportive colleague on the staff team.

TECHNOLOGY

Year 8 made electronic Christmas cards before their final Art and technology project which culminated in a technology showcase evening in May. Visiting Heads of DT were impressed by the breadth and quality of the work. Year 7 produced some imaginative jewellery based on a seaside theme with enamelling and powder-coating giving some professional effects which were shown off in vacuum formed packaging. Acrylic clocks in Year 6 and newspaper chairs in Year 5 are perennial favourites. Year 4 have enjoyed weaving, wind buggies and whisks.

Wood turning is a popular option for some of our pupils and we are very pleased indeed that Mr. Dorman will have more time to support technology lessons from next year.

DRAMA AND THEATRE

The Drama department has been unusually busy this year with several very ambitious productions mounted within the space of a few short months. Mrs Gearey has worked her usual magic and the Michaelmas Term saw Year 3 pupils starring in a seasonal musical rendition of Hans Andersen's "The Snow Queen", ably supported by Year 4 children who sang beautifully under the direction of Mrs Glossop. Within a week and thanks to the brilliance of Mrs Bolt, the stage had been completely transformed into a typically English riverside scene, ready for a lovely and humorous production of "Wind in the Willows" which was performed with enormous commitment by members of Years 7 and

8. The short Lent Term offered no respite from all things theatrical and this time it was the turn of the Year 5 children to mount their musical version of the classic C. S. Lewis tale, "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe". The strength of the singing was a testament to Mrs Harmer's dedication and skill, for this show was originally created for adult actors and singers.

The Summer term arrived with the Vinehall theatre greatly enriched by some additional lighting made possible by the generous donation given to the Drama department by The Friends of Vinehall. The lights and technical systems were installed in time for the end of year musical which this year saw the girls dressed in long Victorian skirts and straw hats, whilst the boys sported striped blazers and boaters. "Half a Sixpence" was a happy, sing-along show which drew capacity audiences for each of its six performances, and left the cast exhausted but elated by their success.

None of these fine achievements could have been realised without the support and hard work of a huge team of people working backstage, especially Jenny Bolt and Libby Waters.

Audiences continue to be astounded by the professional standards achieved in our theatre thanks to Mrs. Gearey.

CLASSICS

We are glad to have Mrs. Cooper with us full-time now in 'the Latin quarter'. Each term during this academic year pupils have enjoyed a Classics trip; Year 6, en route to their Isle of Wight Field Trip in October, examined the remains of the Palace of King Cogidubnus at Fishbourne, near Chichester; Year 4 visited the Roman Villa at Lullingstone in March and Year 5 spent time in the Canterbury Roman museum as experimenting archaeologists. This was part of a new venture as the Classics, History and RS departments combined in a very successful cross-curricular day out on the annual pilgrimage to Canterbury in May.

Year 8 returned five A and four B grades in Latin scholarship exams and from Common Entrance set one, seven of the nine candidates achieved grade A.

MUSIC

This has again been a busy year for the Music Department with lots of concerts, musicals and success in Associated Board Examinations, Hastings and Sevenoaks Festivals and IAPS courses.

We attended the annual Lancing Prep. School Music Days and Year 6 had fun participating in Swinging Samson for the Choral Day. We visited Holmewood House this year for the Prep Schools Orchestral Day and some of our more advanced choristers sang in the Eastbourne Choral Evensong. The junior musical, The Snow Queen, was a great success and involved a cast of hundreds.

The Lent Term saw the Brighton Choral Day which is always a hit with their exciting and varied choice of music. Our jazz musicians attended the Eastbourne Jazz day and the woodwind players returned to Holmewood for a workshop with the Kings' Canterbury Swing Band. Miss Ault's Singing Evening gave many pupils the opportunity to sing their exam repertoire and show songs to a large appreciative audience. The Brass Evening was a very popular event, perhaps because of Mr Mitchell's dry sense of humour as much as the wonderful brass playing. The culmination of the Lent term was the Poetry and Music Evening on the theme of The Elements.

The term ended with the Year 5 play "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe", an ambitious but highly successful production.

The Summer term held a number of opportunities for performance.: Mrs Sigsworth's superb Percussion Evening, the Orchestral Concert, a guitar concert and the summer musical, Half a Sixpence. It was good to have Alice Privett back to sing to the school before her trip to Sri Lanka.

SUBSCRIPTION CONCERTS

The Seventeenth season of concerts has provided some wonderful musical moments and attendances have been excellent. Our audiences have been as keen as ever to come to Vinehall for chamber music of the highest quality. The second concert was particularly significant as it was performed by one of the giants of the keyboard, Radu Lupu. We would still like to see more parents and children selectively dabbling their toes into the wonderful waters of classical music and Mrs. Harmer or Mr. Whitehead will always advise over suitability.

CAMPS AND TRIPS

The children took advantage of the fine weather to experience a wide range of activities at the Year 6 camp, including a swim in the river and a 10 km hike. The standard of camps this year was particularly impressive, with many making use of the wood and their surroundings to construct very imaginative and elaborate sites. Despite the huge number of mosquitoes and high pollen levels everyone had an extremely enjoyable (and exhausting) time.

This year's Lake District Trip for Year 8 was a huge success. In good weather, spirits were high and the Year 8 pupils enjoyed great camaraderie, an antidote to the stress of examinations.

Sailing club went to Bedgebury School sailing Toppers on the lake. A huge amount of time was spent capsizing and swimming but good fun was had by all. Winter activities were largely out of doors with visits to Hastings and to the school pond. The indoor session involved canoes on the pool. Camp Saturday was spent at Bedgebury and Bexhill.

FRIENDS OF VINEHALL

The Friends of Vinehall Committee Chairman this year has been Mrs. Sarah Kowitz who has ensured that Form Representatives have become increasingly high profile, leading to a wider involvement by parents. The Friends have organised a range of highly successful events this year, from the bonfire night with fireworks in the Michaelmas term to the Quiz Night and Easter sale of cakes and gifts as well as the pancake race in the Lent term and the very successful fete in the Summer term. They have supported the school through fundraising and they have kindly donated some new theatre lights, a PA system which was much appreciated on sports days this term, a covered sandpit for the Pre Prep outdoor learning area, a shed to store golf equipment and seeds and tools for the school garden as well as donating £2,500 to the Lawrence Barham Memorial Trust. It has been an active year for The Friends and we are grateful indeed for the record sum raised by the auction at the Quiz Night that allowed the committee to give so generously to school equipment. Thank you for your support.

YEAR OF 2006

Year 8 enjoyed a special post-examination programme of visiting speakers including Combined Cadet Force, cookery events and how to make a good start at your public school.

The leavers are kindly donating a water fountain for the pavilion. This is a well-chosen gift and will be very much appreciated by the Vinehall community, especially on warm days by the athletics track and cricket pitches.

SPORT

Athletics

The following competed at the Alexander Stadium in the National Prep schools athletics finals.

Tom Harvey and William Furlong in the discus.
Jamie Wardle and Perry Andrews in the 200m.
Josh Huntington-Rainey in the Shot putt.

Oswald Wedmore in the 1500 m (4th)

The U12 relay team of Alec Coombes, William Orr, William Furlong and Jamie Wardle came 7th in the final.

A number of girls gained certificates at the IAPS competition at Crawley in June. Isobel Wingrad, Isabelle Powell, Eleanor Hazael and Pascale Hughes are all to be congratulated.

Full athletic colours were awarded to Perry Andrews, Tom Harvey, William Howard-Smith, Pascale Hughes, Calum Marris, James Mursell, Josh Powell, Jamie Poulter and Lewis Saunders.

Junior colours were awarded to Alec Coombes, William Furlong, Joshua Huntington-Rainey, Lilian Hazael, William Orr, Jamie Wardle and Oswald Wedmore.

Ballet

All the children learning ballet from Kindergarten upwards took part in the production of The Water Babies in May.

Cricket

This has been the most successful record for all the school teams for many years: despite losing two full rounds of matches to the weather we have still played 53 matches and managed to 31 wins, 10 draws and just 12 defeats. The 1st XI have won the majority of their matches including fine wins against DPS, Ashdown House and St Andrew's Tom Harvey has had another fine season with the bat for the 1st XI and has scored well over 350 runs including a top score of 82. Jamie Stork scored a brilliant 60 for the U.12 XI to help his side to successfully overhaul a target of 160 runs to win the match.

We have been fortunate to have enlisted the services of ex-professional Jeremy Morley, and his coaching has already had an impact with the boys in his charge in Year 6. The bowling machine purchased by the Friends of Vinehall has also been a great asset, especially in the "wet games" indoor sessions in May. Tom Harvey, Charles Newman and Rob Harvey have represented Sussex teams this season.

Cross Country

This year has seen a rejuvenated interest in Cross-Country throughout the school. As the term progressed there was a marked improvement across all age groups. The teams have had three fixtures so far, the Derwent Lodge Woodmansee Trophy, the Sevenoaks Prep Thomas Trophy and the Ardingly relay. Two girls' teams ran at Derwent Lodge: the U9s were third, the U11s fifth and a combined third place was gained; the star of the day being Lilian Hazael, who won the U11 event. At Sevenoaks there were some memorable runs on the long course. Captain Calum Marris led the way in the seniors race finishing twelfth and Tom Harvey came twenty-fourth with his younger brother Robert finishing twenty-second in the U11 race. The U13 boys were third overall in a competition that had over one hundred runners in each age group. The Year 7 and Year 8 boys also went to Ardingly for the short course relay. They ran very well and out of sixteen teams they finished second, winning the silver medal. The enthusiasm has been great and this was reflected in a very competitive and fun Inter-House competition this year. Paxton won the new Marris Cross Country cup. There is a lot of potential throughout the year groups and Cross Country looks to grow from strength to strength.

Golf

Early in the September term we enjoyed delightful weather for both the morning and afternoon school bell start Parent and Child Foursomes Stableford competitions. We had a healthy entry of 32 pairs on the day and a variety of golf swings and fluky shots were witnessed. There were some very good scores with Carwyn Jones and his father finishing first by one stroke:

41 points	Carwyn Jones
40 "	Calum Marris , Charlie Newman
37 "	William Furlong, Jong-Bin Han, Warat Thavisin

The Lent term competition was once again beaten by the weather conditions, although I remain optimistic that there will be a fine spring day at some point. We will just have to be patient.

In the summer Stableford the rain was unrelenting but our golfers were not to be deterred. James McNeilly and his father made their first appearance and won with 42 points. Equal second came Sam Piper and Scott Collier with their respective fathers on 36 points followed closely by Michael Green and father on 35 points.

On June 21st two dozen boarders and staff ventured onto the golf course at the crack of dawn to play in the Midsummer Madness Competition. This time it was drizzly rain so we did not see the sun come up, it being the longest day of the year, but we all had a super time and were more than ready for the special breakfast in the dining room at 7.30a.m. Runners up were Carwyn Jones, Patrick Wadsworth, Miss Libby and Mr Butcher with 58 points and the winners were Patrick Dunn, Alex Simmons, Mr Willard and Mrs Pickerill with 66 points.

The following day eight of our boys competed in the Kentish Prep Schools Golf Competition. The conditions were tough, not just the rough, with a strong wind whipping across the Hythe Imperial golf course. James Floyd and Carwyn Jones were one of the early pairings to do battle with the elements and came in with a staggering 33 points which we thought had clinched the shield until the last but one group returned a score one point better. C'est la vie. Our second best pairing was Alex Simmons and Patrick Dunn who scored 23 points then Scot Collier and Warat Thavisin came in with 18 points and Jamie Poulter and Richard Rogers with 16. Well done to the team.

Gymnastics

In May the U8 gymnasts and U9 gymnasts took part in the Tormead School Teddy Bear Competition. All the gymnasts performed with great confidence and both teams came 4th in their age group for their combined floor and vault scores.

Many congratulations to all the gymnasts but a special mention of U8 gymnasts Lucy Everist who came 11th on floor and 16th overall and Libby Hodgson who was 10th on floor and 12th overall.

In the U9 age group Isabelle Powell came 11th on floor and 13th overall and Aneesa Zaidi was 5th on floor and 10th overall.

Full colours and The Redstone Trophy were awarded to Phoebe Ashenheim and Alexandra Gage and full colours were awarded to Marie Cotten-Rhein. The Towner Endeavour Trophy was awarded to Stephanie Colvin.

Hockey

Results this term have been mixed but the weather has been kind enabling the teams to practise regularly. Mrs King has taken on the 1st XI this season and the senior girls have flourished under her guidance improving steadily throughout the term. They ended the term with an enjoyable day at the East Grinstead Club tournament where four of their players had spent the previous Sunday morning being coached by members of the England men's squad. The U10 and U11 teams took part in a tournament organised by St Andrew's School. Both teams did extremely well with the U10s finishing third and the U11s earning runners-up medals for their second place.

Riding

Vinehall has a number of competitive riders including Dodie James, Romilly Ellis and William Furlong, Olivia Thompson, Charlotte Thompson and Kate Petty. The team competes in high standard competitions. In March they had a super day out at Bedgebury where the riding team competed in the inter-schools show-jumping at the height of 2 feet 6 inches. In June the riding team entered the St. Leonard's Mayfield inter-schools competition. Romilly, Dodie and William came third as a riding team and qualified for the nationals in November, for the second year running. This is a huge achievement for the team.

Rounders

Both the U13 and the U11 team took part in the IAPS rounders tournament and the U13s also competed in a tournament held by St Bede's.

Rugby

The 1st XV finished the term with a fine 12-0 win against Ashdown House, but had a mixed season with only two other victories. The 2nd XV remained unbeaten in their matches against like opposition and have played fantastic rugby throughout their season. The Colts A XII also achieved a flawless record and they deserve great praise for the courage and tenacity they have shown in their play during this winter's matches. The diminutive U.10 squad was probably the most improved group this year and they achieved a number of notable wins despite often playing against boys almost twice their size.

A new event this season was an afternoon of rugby against Heathfield RFC and it proved an interesting afternoon as many boys played for and against Vinehall in the same afternoon! The U.13 sevens squad enjoyed their day at the Windlesham Tournament and despite winning two of their four matches did not quite achieve enough points to make it through to the quarter final stage.

Sports Day

This year's Sports Day was held on a beautiful summer's day in June. The weather certainly inspired the competitors and four new records were set on the day. There were more events than ever before and the addition of plenty of B competitions meant that children had lots of opportunities to earn a winner's medal.

One of the best achievements was by Jack Newman who jumped an amazing 1.36m to win the middle boys' event. There was also a fine run by Perry Andrews to set a new record for the Year 7 400m (14.42). Elsewhere, Jamie Stork achieved a school best in the Shot Put (7.79m) and Archie Ridpath threw the cricket ball further than any Year 3 boy before (33.36m)

There was a new 800m cup donated by the Blackstone family and Lilian Hazael was the recipient of the award. The House event was won narrowly by Saxton.

The senior winners of the Victor Ludorum were Calum Marris and Perry Andrews. The senior Victrix Ludorum shield was won by Pascale Hughes.

We are very grateful to the Head Boy's mother Mrs Mursell and Head Girl's mother, Mrs Hazael for awarding the prizes.

Soccer

The soccer season started with the very successful pre term coaching course. We were fortunate to have the assistance of Barry Cooper from Brighton and Hove Albion FC and following his visit, several boys have attended coaching courses run by his club. The 1st XI had another enjoyable season with perhaps the highlights being the narrow home victory against Ashdown House and the hard fought draw with Holmewood. The U12 XI players acquitted themselves well in the Ardingly Tournament and were unfortunate to go out at the quarter finals stage. The Colts A XI made good progress during the term with notable wins against Newlands and St Bede's. The U9A VII had the best playing record and did well to only lose one of their seven matches.

Swimming

This has been an outstanding season for the swimming squad. The girls and boys have remained unbeaten in their school fixtures. In the national championships we have sent a very large contingent of swimmers to represent the school.

The boys' squad kicked off the season, winning the St Andrew's cup and then went on to win the boys' section of the St Bede's prep gala; with the girls we came overall second. At the Tonbridge gala the seniors came a very close third, behind Holmewood House and Dulwich College. Twelve schools took part.

Twenty Vinehall swimmers reached the IAPS finals, girls at Crawley and boys at Millfield. We won fourteen medals, nine golds and five bronze. James Floyd won the U13 freestyle, Lily Canetty-Clarke took bronze position in the U12 butterfly, the U13 boys freestyle team achieved bronze position and the squadron team won the gold with a new national record.

Tennis

Tennis has once again proved a popular sport during the PE and games lessons this year. Coaching has also taken place in an Easter course and as part of the weekly evening activity programme.

Matches have been played against Yardley Court and Benenden but unfortunately three fixtures fell foul of the weather.

SCHOOL GARDEN

A generous donation from the Friends enabled us to purchase some gardening tools in the Lent term. When spring eventually arrived we uncovered a large section of the garden and prepared a number of mini-plots which were adopted and then cultivated by several friendly and eager groups of children, mostly in their break-times. There is a large number of keen gardeners, both young and old, boarders and day children.

With the assistance of Mr. Willard and other helpers, the water collection system from some of the stable yard buildings was put in place and fed down by a number of large water butts to a tap in the garden. This has proved a real bonus, especially with the lack of rainfall and drought orders in the South-East.

At the end of the summer term the mini-plots were judged and garden vouchers awarded to three gardens which belong to: Charlotte Ward, Kajal Radia, Daisy Denning, Isabella Christie, Charlotte McNally and Fred Holt. Fred was also awarded the gardening cup for his well-tended and varied garden.

Our gardeners would be pleased to receive any perennials and herbs to develop another area of the school garden should you have any surplus plants when you tidy up your own gardens in early autumn.

BOARDING

Some of this term's highlights have been our lively "Startechz Rock and Pop Day", an evening of bowling at Bexhill, and our Year 6 Taster boarding session, which clearly gave many a taste for boarding life. Junior Boarders went to Herstmonceux Science Centre, Legoland, Hastings seafront and "bouldering" at Groombridge; History Club visited Greenwich Maritime Museum, the Cutty Sark and St Paul's Cathedral as well as several local historical sites; and Food, Fashion and Fine Arts made exquisite miniature gardens and included visits to Sissinghurst and Covent Garden in their range of activities. As always, Sailing Club and Golf Club were highly popular options at weekends, too.

PRO ALIIS OPTIMUM AGERE – CHARITY COLLECTIONS

The Charity Committee continues to operate and this year has helped to raise over £13942. The table of donations shows the range of charities supported. Not included in this list are the amounts raised by Dodie James for the Rainforest by her sales of items at the Rwanda sale and ice creams on home clothes day or Helen Butcher's wellies full of coins. A highlight this year was the giant snail created on the library floor with one and two pence coins on French Day.

EVENT	IN AID OF	AMOUNT
Biggest Coffee Morning	MacMillan Cancer Relief	107.60
Senior Play collection	MacMillan Cancer Relief	390.10
Cake Sale	Cancer Research and orphanage in Argentina	14.50
Dorm decorations	Cancer Research	12.69
Dorm decorations	RTCW	7.51
Bad Hair Day	Fellowship of St Nicholas	135.51
"Back to Front" day in Pre Prep	Fellowship of St Nicholas	84.01
Non-uniform day in Pre-Prep	Fellowship of St Nicholas	98.20
Sponsored Walk	Rwanda	7337.62
Christmas Sale	Rwanda	998.00
Christmas Fair	Rwanda	95.00
Dorm Decorations	Rwanda	37.91
Quiz Evening	Rwanda	2000.00
Cake Sale	Rwanda	215.00
Pennies from Pupils	Rwanda	93.58
Non Uniform Day	St Michael's Hospice	422.95
Badges	St Michael's Hospice	123.36
Christmas Fayre	St Michael's Hospice	95.00
Junior Play collection	Demelza Hospice	468.98
Carol Service	The Michael Palin Centre for Stammering	265.54
Carol Service	Held the Aged	265.54
Carol Service	St Michael's Hospice	82.05
African Drums	Chichester DAFSW	70.00
French Day	Great Ormond Street	122.61
French Day	Kashmir Earthquake	122.61
Non Uniform Day	Childhood Leukaemia/Chernobal	276.80
	TOTAL	13942.67

School Council

School Council has been increasingly effective with more frequent meetings held in a time slot that does not conflict with other activities. This year it has raised issues from wet break provision, a return of Lenten lunch, the group outing attendance, a system for easy identification of the leading house, rewards for the winning form each term, guardian selection, whole school attendance at the play and the merit badge criteria. What is most important is that the group has evolved from one that asks for changes to one that considers best options, looks for improvement and offers solutions.

Conclusion

What a year it has been! We pay tribute to the dedicated and professional staff team that makes all these events possible. Vinehall crams many, many extras into a busy timetable so that the children will benefit from the best of a traditional prep school education and that special Vinehall magic. We are truly fortunate to work and play in such a vibrant community. Genuine care and teamwork binds us together.

We wish our leavers all the very best of happiness and success for the future and we look forward to meeting in September when it all starts again!