



Ski Trip 2018



See inside for a full round-up...



Farmor's School 2018 Ski Trip - Continued



Farmor's School 2018 Ski Trip

On Friday 9th February, 22 children and 3 teachers started their journey to the Santa Caterina Valfureva ski resort in Italy. The day began at 8am when we set off on a coach to Heathrow Airport. The coach journey didn't take long and we soon pulled up outside terminal 5 and headed inside to the check in desk. After a brief stroll through the Duty Free shops and a smooth flight we boarded another coach and headed to the resort. After a very tiresome coach journey (4 hours) we arrived in Santa Caterina, ate our evening meal and settled down for the night.

On the first day we woke early and got fitted for our ski equipment after breakfast. We immediately headed for the slopes, eager to meet our instructors and start skiing. We were quickly put into groups, based on our ability, and set off with our instructors to challenge ourselves. Luckily, the conditions were perfect all week (although the coldest temperature was -25o) and the resort was at its best for skiing.

Each day we had five hours of skiing, two hours in the morning and three hours in the afternoon. Each day, at the end of the afternoon session we all came back to the hotel for a well-earned hot drink and a piece of cake. There were also a range of après ski activities for us to enjoy in the evenings, such as ice skating, quizzes and tobogganing. These were enormous fun and tired us out even more!

The entire group got on really well all week and the teachers were enormous fun. The awarding of a 'Morris the moose' helmet cover to different group members throughout the week for various reasons was particularly funny. Unfortunately, I received 'Morris' for my appalling time keeping!

On the final morning the entire group headed to the slopes for a slalom race. The advanced group were up first and some fantastic performances were posted by all those involved. Eventually the smooth skiing of Olivia Cripps saw her crowned champion, with Tom Hills and Chris Simpson placed second and third respectively. Whilst the advanced skiers raced the beginners watched on from the top of the course, their nerves increasing by the minute. Luckily though everyone managed to complete the course and increased in confidence as a result. When the results were announced it was obvious that Joshua Newman had used his extensive ice skating experience to glide more smoothly than everyone else and win the race

Pos.	House	Advanced	Beginner	Cummulative Time
1 st	Keble	29.16	18.35	47.51
2 nd	Farmor	30.89	20.89	51.78
3 rd	Barker	31.28	20.64	51.92
4 th	Tame	35.54	20.47	56.01

by more than 2 seconds. Wow!

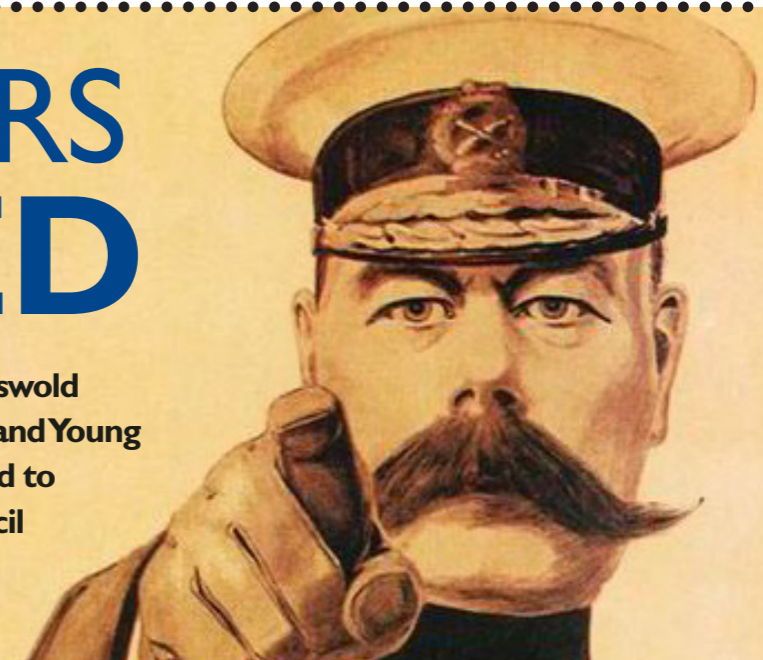
After careful scrutiny of all the students' times, Mr Simpson was in a position to announce that the winner of the 2018 house skiing championships was Keble (8 points). However, the contest between the remaining houses was so fierce that Barker, Farmor and Tame were all tied on 4 points and couldn't be easily separated. Eventually the three houses were separated using the cumulative time of the highest ranked advanced and beginner skier from each house. This meant that Farmor, by only 0.14s, crept into 2nd position and Barker were 3rd, leaving Tame in 4th position.

All in all, the ski trip was a fantastic holiday and I would highly recommend it to anyone who is thinking of going on a school ski trip in the future. I would also like to thank Mr Simpson, Mrs Price, and Mr Eckersley for making the trip possible and for making it as fun as it was.

Theo Merrington, Year 9

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

I run a support group in Fairford - South Cotswold Parent Carers. This is for Parents of children and Young Adults with Additional Needs. I have managed to secure funding from Cotswold District Council to fund a Funday Sunday 2-4pm on the last Sunday of every month.



The aim is to give the families and their friends a fun activity to do together in their local community. We are hoping to engage with non-disabled children and young adults in the community to buddy up with our SEN kids. This month it is a music based session at Fairford Community centre on Sunday March 25th 2-4 pm. Any volunteer pupils from Farmor's school would be welcomed with open arms.

CONTACT ME ON
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Animal Art

Since Christmas I have been part of Cotswold Hare trail by painting one of the many leverets that go on the trail in the Cotswolds. Mine is called 'Tally Hare' and is painted in shooting clothes (tweed waste coat, tweed 3/4 lengths and knee high socks alongside with a pair of burgundy shoes). I have enjoyed every minute painting this leveret alongside Mrs Dawson, who is painting a full size hare sculpture and I must say it is looking fabulous.



For my Art Mock I created this half-lifesize Roe deer stag out of pieces of vine and wood. I screwed them together to make this fantastic sculpture of a stag. The most striking part of this sculpture is its amazing set of antlers as they are just so big like they would be on a stag. For my actual GCSE exam I will be making a scrap metal ram.

By Will Axel-Berg, Y11



Year 7 pupil Chloe Finch took this great photo of her horse.
Say Cheese!



3 Peaks... First Challenge for Year 12s

As a 6th form student who is currently studying four A-levels and has a looming extended project qualification deadline, any assembly the school gives on extracurricular activities I tend to ignore. However, there was something about the Three Peaks that caught my attention. Maybe it was the promise of the instant gratification that can be felt from completing a physical challenge or the subconscious need for exercise I've felt since quitting both P.E. and my out of school sport in favour of my studies.

But either way I signed up alongside around twenty other Year 12 students and completed the first of three training sessions: crossing the Malvern Ridge.

I knew the walk was going to be around 10 miles; what I didn't know was that we wouldn't only be crossing the ridge once, but twice. The initial steep climb up onto the ridge had me cursing all the water my mum had so caringly packed for me (near the end of the walk a friend and I actually began pouring this water out, which we so lovingly called "watering the plants"), but once we were on the ridge that all changed. The view was beautiful, as you can see from the pictures taken, and the cold wind felt amazingly refreshing after the climb.

I'm not going to lie and say the walk was easy, it wasn't. But the teachers were incredibly supportive and there were always breaks when needed. There was also a group rivalry spurring us on as the two groups each started from either end of the ridge, and then crossed over twice half way across the ridge (or over half way if one group was faster). My group were certain that we were faster; though both groups must have been reasonably quick as both minibuses ended up arriving back at school within minutes of each other!

All the teachers who accompanied us were clearly experienced in walking and gave helpful tips on what to do differently on the next training walk, which will be the Yorkshire three peaks. Well, it was all good advice up to when one teacher recommended an ice bath after the walk, which I can assure you none of us did.

I am surprised to say, seeing as how I wouldn't normally put myself forward for a sporting activity, that I would recommend the Three Peaks Challenge, especially to anyone wanting to escape stress. It is a great way to feel fulfilled and it only took half a day.

Ayesha Baker Y12





Battlefields

At the beginning of February, the Year 9 students took a History trip to Belgium and France. We had an early start leaving school at 5am and travelled by coach down to the Channel Tunnel, across to France and drove onto our first stop in Belgium.

The first day's highlights were many and included; the Passchendaele museum located in a small building housing guns, lots of ammunition, recreated German dugouts and replica trenches that we walked through.

After, we went to Tyne Cot cemetery where 12,000 soldiers were laid to rest. 35,000 names of the missing soldiers were etched into the walls surrounding the cemetery and we found soldiers from the Fairford war memorial with the Gloucesters regiment.

We went on to walk through some trenches at Sanctuary Wood that had been preserved from the war. The trenches and tunnels were really muddy and it was hard to truly imagine how the soldiers coped with harsh conditions they lived and fought in.

A popular highlight for everyone was the local chocolate shop where we went after dinner on the way to the Menin Gate Memorial. At the Menin Gate we stood for the last post and Tabi Berry and Josh Stevenitt laid a wreath from the school. After the ceremony we went to the hostel and it was nice to finally relax in our spacious rooms after a very long day.

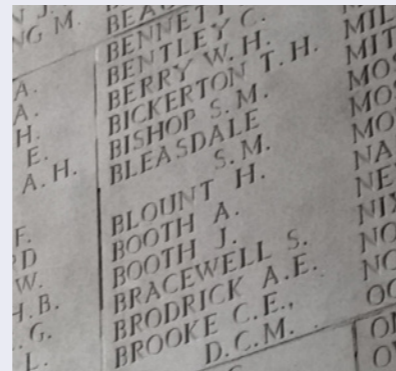
The following day we packed up and made a 2-hour journey to France and the battlefields of the Somme. We walked around and saw unexploded ammunition shells and the trenches preserved by the British to commemorate our soldiers. At Lochnagar there was a massive crater in the ground where mines had exploded. We also went to Newfoundland Park, a Canadian reserved memorial bought by the Canadians to remember their soldiers who died for their country.

We went on to Mansell Copse, a cemetery where a Devon regiment lay, our guide Tim Saunders' regiment, walking the course they took to their death, and then onto our last stop before dinner, the Thiepval Memorial where the missing of the Battle of Somme are listed.

After dinner we started our journey home, back through the Chunnel arriving back at school at midnight.

The whole trip was fantastic and our tour guides Nick and Tim were friendly and enthusiastic, providing many interesting facts about the locations we visited. It was a great opportunity to go on this trip which taught us about the war, the hardship our soldiers endured and providing insight and enlightenment about what actually happened back then.

Emily Cripps (Year 9)



Sue Futtu's relative

The highlight of this year's Battlefields trip for me (apart from the lovely company of so many Year 9 students, of course) was finding my great grandfather's name on the famous Thiepval monument to the missing of the Somme - Lance Corp. Sam Bleasdale. Although I have been coming on the trip for many years, it was only a few months ago that I managed to find out anything about him. He was one of the 20,000 British soldiers killed on the very first day of the Battle of the Somme - 1st July 1916, the bloodiest day in the history of the British Army. He was part of a 'Pals Battalion' and, out of 800 men, nearly 500 of them were lost on that terrible day. The names on Thiepval - 76,000 of them - are those from the Battle of the Somme who have never been found - those with 'no known grave'. It was a very moving moment for me to finally find his memorial. Now I am on a mission finding out everything else I can about him!

Mrs Sue Futtu, English Teacher

Year 9 - Cell models

The Y9 S5 have started GCSE Biology BI unit. To help the students really understand bacterial and plant cell structures, they created 3D models of these cells. I was so impressed to see how creative the students were. Each model was completely unique. Every student clearly identified key parts present in the wonderful bacterial and plant cells. During the lesson students had a chance to vote for the most accurate, memorable and best effort model. Many merits were awarded for these great creations. Great work Y9!

By: Dr Morieri



Outstanding Y10 Business Students

The RAF Charitable Trust Enterprises recently ran a competition for Outstanding Business Student of the Year. Entrants had to write up a business case study for a new business. We're delighted to announce that Year 10 students Jessica Ponting and Lily Chambers were Finalists and Year 10 student Lizzie Dawson was the overall winner with a fabulous idea for a business producing soft dog biscuits for older dogs.



TRUTH

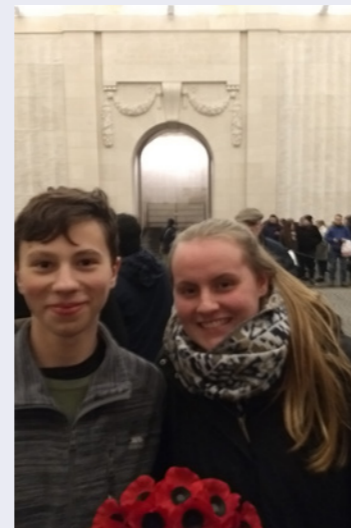
By Chantelle M, Year 8

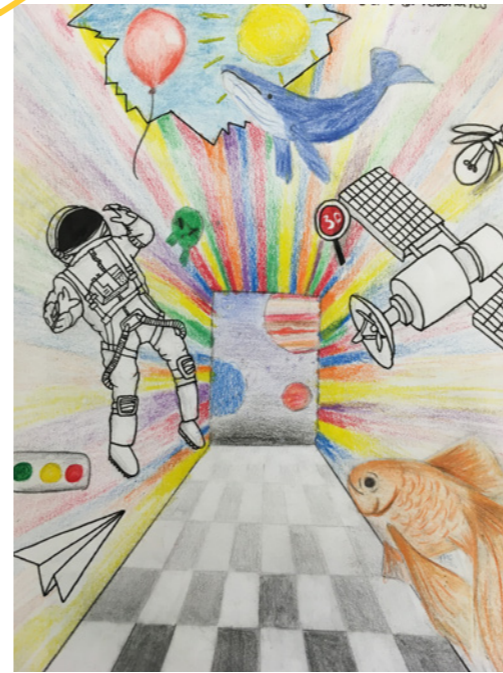
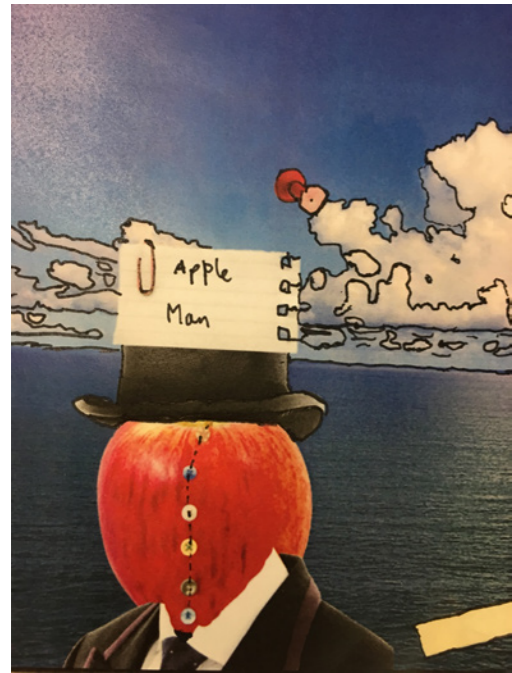
People say the truth hurts
But does it burst
Just tell the truth and
Don't drop the roof.
Stop making consequences
And make differences.

Just say it
Don't pay it
Life won't go wrong
You will stay strong
As long as you
Just tell the TRUTH!

Lying might give you a lucky
Bite but it's not right
So face the truth that is
The light.

► Evie McIntyre's Great Great Grandad Percy Brown





Year 9s Surrealist Art



The surrealist day was amazing. We had four different stations to do throughout the day. The first one I did was a set design where we had to choose a surreal artist and recreate some of his work and place them into a background. My group choose Salvador Dali. He had some very interesting art pieces.

- Afterwards we went across to IT3 to do some digital art on pic monkey. We had to get some pictures and then merge them into our design on pic monkey to make our own surrealist collage. It was very interesting.
- We then did some clay modelling back in art. We had to make a model out of clay that you don't normally see in real life. One of my friends Ben made a shoe which had a mouth at the end of it. It looks very cool and I had never seen anything like it. However what I made wasn't so interesting. I made a cat that had a fish body. I found this part of the art day the most creative and interesting of them all.
- Finally, the last lesson of the day I found very calm and peaceful. We were drawing some bugs but not any type of bug we had to merge a bottle or object into the bug we choose. I loved the art day and I hope that they will do it again next year for the Year 9s.

By: Ewan and Luke 9DJC



Jiggerfigit..

“ONNNNNNNNGGGGG!”
“OONNGG!” “OONNGG!” I sat and woke up with a start, but didn't bother throwing open the curtains as I knew Battery couldn't make that much noise, sprinted downstairs and... All the raptors were asleep! I went back upstairs and opened the curtains and... there was a very real raptor called Battery sitting on the windowsill, playing back the raptors arguing at a party the other day on an iPad. I rolled my eyes. I scooped Battery up in one arm (he's only a hatchling, and is only just over the size of a human baby) before heading downstairs. The raptors were awake now (can't blame them, the racket 'Battery the alarm raptor' was making) and treated them all to 15 tear and share rump steaks. As the name suggests, they tear the lump of meat apart- they are still carnivorous dinosaurs- and share chunks amongst themselves. CRUNCH! CRUNCH! CRUNCH! CRUNCH! “Zeta, we've had this conversation before, close your mouth!” Reluctantly, he stopped. I grabbed the box of weetos, and went to pour it but missed. “Oh jiggerfigit!” I shouted, as an alternative to something impolite. The raptors froze-then toppled over like the leaning tower of Pisa giving up to the law of gravity. “Alpha, wakey wakey!” A pause. “Rise and shine!” Still nothing. This continued for 10 minutes until I was clutching at straws. “Anti-jiggerfigit!?” I semi questioned, semi hoped. They stood up again and resumed

eating. “So, when I say jiggerfigit you guys play dead!” I said to myself. Thump! I said the 'J' word to loudly. “Anti jiggerfigit!” Munch Munch Munch! This was pretty amazing! I finished my breakfast quickly, so I could feed Venus and Neptune- two of the newest- their breakfast by mincing a lump of meat. Beta, their mother- watched me closely. She trusted me and I trusted her, but she was just being protective. Ionblast and Control Alter and Delete (watch out for a coming soon bumper book on those last three) helped me. Then, I set off to do my duty at the police station. I was still nervous from the time one of the worlds most wanted tried to poison me (see My Deal with The Police the third raptor story for details). “Alright, we've got a criminal in the area for you, but our last 2 officers failed.” “So why are you sending me, a rookie then?” I questioned. “Because you did so well with one of the world's most wanted! You're actually rather popular here!” “Gee thanks.” I said, unamused “So because I'm so popular you send me to all the difficult guys.” “Yep.” “Bad to know.” I whistled to Alpha, still deeply annoyed, and headed towards the criminal's last known position. I trudged down the alley, towards a scrap heap. There he was. I motioned to the raptors to be stealthy. I approached him

cautiously. Crunch! It was an aluminium can, crushed beneath my feat. He looked up and spun round, a gun aimed for my head. Time froze for a moment as I concluded that this was the worst moment of my life before... Bang! And everything went black.

Only did I and the raptors know at this point I wasn't dead. In fact, I had dived to the side, closing my eyes as I did so. Without my raptors, I was useless against a criminal. I fled.

3 Hours I spent, concocting a plan at the police station. Then, one word popped into my mind: jiggerfigit. I returned back to the scrap heap where he was rummaging through the pile for something. It was suspicious, but I had no time to lose. I folded my teaser staff into a rifle and blasted some nearby trash. There was a 'whooshing' sound and a tongue of flame shot up. Confused the criminal went to the other side of the scrap heap. I got the raptors into position on this side of the scrap heap. “Jiggerfigit!” I murmured to the pack. They quietly fell to the ground. The criminal returned to this side after eventually finding something for it in the scrap heap. He smiled as he saw the “dead” raptors. “Master Roth must have sent someone to deal with them!” He grinned. Roth must be the name of the criminal leader! He went to kick Phi to check he was dead, when Phi shot up, consuming the whole of his lower leg in one bite attack. He didn't, of course, bite it off. I'd talked the raptors out of that long ago. It looked like it hurt though. “Anti jiggerfigit!” I shouted and the pack pinned him down- and stripped him of everything but his pants. Soon, he was in custody and there was time to try and relax for the rest of the day. I reported the name Roth to the police and they said they'd watch out. But for now, I fancied a treat for the raptors!

Leo Gamer, Year 7

“ These trees

By Kira Hook, Y10

These trees.
These trees of red,
They tear me, scorn me and weaken me,
wrapped in fences a thousand feet tall.
Their thorns laced in the very essence of envy, soil my soul,
My blood stains the wood crimson.
But I look toward the sun,
To the day when it will all be okay,
For these trees won't stand together forever.
And when they part,
I will be a bud from the definition of strength.
The trees are just twigs,
They will only ever be crimson-stained twigs.
But me? I will bloom,
when the trees part.
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Farmor's Hare Trail

Farmor's School were honoured to be involved in the Cirencester Hare Trail this year and our students busied themselves creating designs and coming up with names for their hares. In total fourteen students have been involved; with hares being themed on the RAF tattoo, 'RAF Hareford', to cricket hares, countryside hares and even one dressed as a farmer called 'Tally Hare'.

The students have dedicated time after school and on weekends and have been painting alongside their Art teacher, Mrs Dawson who is doing two of the 5ft hares for this year's trail. Mrs Dawson has been an Art teacher at Farmor's for the last sixteen years and is a hare enthusiast. "Becoming part of the Hare Trail really is a dream come true for me. I have visited the trail with my family each year it has run and marvelled at the designs I have previously seen".

The hares were delivered in December and students began work in January. Family and friends have been very supportive and shown a great deal of interest in the work of the students and the upcoming trail. The leverets and hares are now all completed and are on display in the reception area of the school for staff, visitors and family members to view before they go off to be sponsored and placed on the trail.

It is great to see such enthusiasm and creativity amongst the students. It is quite daunting when the hares first arrive as they are all white and to take the first steps of placing the design onto the hare and beginning to add paint can be quite daunting. Students taking part varied in age range from Year 8 through to Sixth Form.



Moon Gazing Hare

by Mrs Joanne Dawson.

This is the 5ft hare I have been working on at school alongside the students. It depicts a moon gazing hare who is looking after a burrow of baby leverets placed on the back of the hare.

My favourite part to paint was the head and the section with ivy.



'Contented Hares'

by Mrs Joanne Dawson.

This is the 5ft hare I have been working on at home. This hare is based on one of my favourite paintings called 'The Kiss' by Gustav Klimt.

This hare is done in mixed media and has a collaged section on the chest area which took several hours to complete. I used a lot of gold on this hare to link in to the original painting as closely as possible.

I have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the hare trail and have always had a keen interest in hares since I was a young girl. I love the freedom of painting and the abstract quality of collage work.



RAF Hareford

by Maya Evans and Emma Simmons in Year 12.



Leverets

by James Conlan in Year 8, Will Axel-Berg in Year 11, Maia Killian in Year 10 and Jasmine Heppenstall and Grace Lawless in Year 9.





Farmor's Bake-Off 2018!



The brief:

House Bake Off.

There are 3 stages to this year's competition. (Open to Year 7,8,9,10 and Heads of House)

Stage 1: Prepare and bake a biscuit.

The biscuit must be square in shape (approx. 6cm x 6cm) and with a height of no more than 2cm (to include your decoration).

Please clearly identify on a piece of paper your full name; tutor group and House. This needs to be placed in a small tub with your biscuit.

All entries must be in by the end of break to DT5 on Thursday 8th February.

GET BAKING!

Merits for all who enter!

**Winners will be notified for Stage 2*

House Biscuit bake Off entries 2018

Some very creative designs submitted this year from Years 7-10 for Round 1- the biscuit challenge. Students were asked to create and bake a 'square' biscuit of specific dimensions. As can be seen some students did not quite make the brief - but all did very well to take part.

Chloe Hooper; Katie Freebury; Sophie Green; Ruby Frank; Lois Heeley; Lottie Cowan; Joseph Brogden; Lucy Tukes-Hastings; Beth Tukes-Hastings; Mae Rodia; Lani Levinge; Lois Floyd; Kieran Flood; Leon Parks-Dee; Isabelle Beattie and Olivia Pawson.



VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Do you have some spare time?

Are you able to offer your skills to help improve our school environment?

At Farmor's we are always looking for volunteers to help with various projects around school during the school holidays. If you would like to lend a hand, then we would love to hear from you!

Here are some of the things you could help with:

- Litter picking
- Small painting and decorating jobs
- Basic DIY
- Weeding and gardening
- Fencing repairs
- Moving furniture

For more information or to be added to our Farmor's task force list, please email hdunmall@farmors.gloucs.sch.uk with your contact details and how you can help.



Cross Country



Special mentions:

Fletcher Hart

Congratulations to Fletcher Hart in Year 7 who represented Gloucestershire County at the South-West regional cross-country championships at Newton Abbott and came 4th out of a very strong field. He represented Gloucestershire at the national championships which were held at Loughborough on Saturday 24th March and came amazing 5th. Congratulations Fletcher!

Kiya and Taya Dee

Additionally, there has been continued cross country success for the Dee twins! After competing in the ESAA National XC Championships Kiya Dee came 6th and Taya Dee 36th out of 342 of England's best year 8s and 9s. As a result, Kiya was selected to run for England. She will be competing in Nottingham at the end of March. What an achievement! Good luck Kiya!





Archery

Flying start for students



Twelve Farmor's students have recently completed a three week introduction to archery course. The sessions, delivered by the award winning Xperience Archery, were run in the main hall as an after school session on three consecutive Mondays.

- Range and Personal safety
- Basic archery etiquette
- Basic shooting technique
- Aiming techniques
- Individual and team competitions

All the students involved really enjoyed the course and made some great progress with their shooting over the three sessions.

Following the success of the course we have opened discussions with Xperience Archery regarding running another, longer course, so watch this space!



"I had a good laugh whilst doing something I really enjoyed and would really like to have the opportunity to do it again."

Leon Parks-Dee

"The teacher was brilliant and had lots of patience. The classes were challenging but lots of fun!"

Jack Thornton

Equestrian



News on the Farmor's riding team: Morgan Kent, Ben Newman, Sophie Wildern and Mia Reglar - went to West Wilts on a bitterly cold Saturday at the end of February and the results were as follows:

75 cm class: Morgan Kent (Year 8) - individual 5th

85cm class. Sophie Wildern (Year 7) - individual 5th

The team all pulled off super speedy double clears which meant they won their class out of 15 teams and qualified for Bury Farm Finals in April. They fought off some tough teams but really pulled it out of bag. Each one rode an amazingly, scary fast round and genuinely deserved the win.

The same team were also 6th in the 90/95cm class. Congratulations to the team on their hard work and fantastic results!

Girls' PE

As a District, all schools play Hockey in this half of the season but as a department we have decided to continue to offer both Netball and Hockey fixtures to our girls. This makes for a very busy time for both the students and the staff but we love challenging ourselves to play schools further afield. So far this season we have played Pates Grammar School, Cleeve School Cheltenham and Faringdon School along with the schools in our local District as well. This has provided us with different opposition and some great local competition.

Netball

Y9

The Year 9s represented Gloucestershire County at the Regional Netball Tournament in Bournemouth this year. They worked incredibly hard to get to this stage and it was a truly challenging experience for them. This event is a highly prestigious tournament which paves the way for girls to compete at the National Schools Netball Finals which sees the top two schools from the Regional rounds go through to compete against the rest of the country.

We were delighted to be in Bournemouth as it is normally one of the sunnier corners of the UK, but unfortunately on Saturday the 27th of January it was one of the wettest! The weather conspired against us but the girls did themselves proud and before the rain really set in they took two wins from their first two games. Sadly we lost the final four matches but we did build our resilience throughout the day! The girls had to learn to cope with a real variety of challenges - apart from the weather! There are lots of people watching the event, parents, coaches, teachers and umpires so they had to cope with this increased level of scrutiny. They also played against some superb teams who had we lost our nerve may have run away with some games. I was very proud that all members of the squad got to play at least one full game and that this was a squad experience rather than being about 7 players.

The girls get another opportunity to go to the Regional tournament when they are in Y11 so we need to work hard until that next opportunity!



Netball Continued.



U13 North Region of the South West Netball tournament

The Year 8 Netball team competed in the U13 South West (North Region) Netball tournament on Tuesday 6th March. This was their first experience of a tournament setting and game structure of 7 minute halves.

We travelled to Bristol and the girls were raring to go after a thorough team talk from Mrs Johnson and Miss Coote with each player being given a target to consider in each game.

We got off to a great start winning our first game against Oasis Academy the host school 12-1; our second game against Colston's Girls' School was our closet result, coming away with a win of 4-2; following this we showed a strong defensive game in our third match,

not letting any goals in and winning 7-0 against Brimsham Green School; we then won our 4th game 7-1 against St Bede's Catholic College.

Our last game was against KLB and this was definitely our best performance of the day resulting in a win of 12-2 therefore winning the whole tournament. It was too hard for us to pick a player but our most improved throughout the tournament was Olivia Peach, who was brilliant at taking on our feedback after each game and making the appropriate changes. Congratulations girls!! Looking forward to going back for a second win as an U15 squad.

U15 North Region of the South West Netball tournament

We set off to Bristol to retain our title of North Region of the South West state school champions. We were graced with good weather and ready to play! We had a positive start winning all our pool games; vs St Mary Redcliffe 18-1; vs Brimsham Green 12-0; vs KLB 7-5; vs Hanham Woods Academy 16-2. Facing Colston Girl's School in the semi-finals winning 17-3 and facing KLB once again in final winning 7-2.

The win is a testament to the strength and depth of this squad- who were still able to dominate after losing 2 players to ankle injuries. Congratulations!

Hockey

We have started our Hockey season with gusto! All year groups have had matches and despite our lack of facility we have really managed to take some good wins.



Y7

The year 7s have got off to a good start with a mixed bag of wins, losses and draws this year. It's been great to hear that many of them have joined their local Hockey club, so they can gain more experience playing on AstroTurf and developing their skill level and understanding further. We hope they will continue to ripen as a squad which will lead to more successes in future games. It has been great to see high numbers coming out to our hockey club, allowing us to give more opportunities and set us up well for when they will be progressing to 11 a-side from Y9 onwards. Special mentions to Stefani Cvetkovski, Rebecca Cornell, Jasmin Beach and Isabelle Hawkins who have shown some brilliant performances. Also to Isabelle Stewart and Annie Griffiths who stepped up as our goalies.

Y8

The Year 8s have the makings of an excellent Hockey team. Many of them have joined their local Hockey clubs and they are really reaping the rewards of this extra input and experience. They have come away as winners in all their matches bar one against KLB, a very strong team who gave us some great competition. This alone would be a challenging game but we also had the snow against us, therefore had to call the game early with time to make some snow angels! Another stand out game was against Stroud High School- last year they lost 8-0 to this side but this year the girls really held their own coming away with a 3-3 draw. It was a very exciting game with goal for goal and both teams showing grit and determination- we'll get them next year girls!! These are some fantastic results for Team Farmor's in hockey considering the lack of facilities we have at the school - the girl's continue to show excellent commitment and some outstanding performances.



Special mentions:

Special mentions to go out to Elizabeth Payne, Olivia Cripps and Beth Tuke-Hastings who have shown exceptional performances throughout this hockey block.



Hockey Continued.

Y9

Unfortunately the Y9 squad have not had many matches this season, due to a lack of opposition in our league. This year was their first experience of playing full pitch (11 a-side). When we did manage to play on an Astroturf, we faced snow, sleet, hail and arctic conditions! However, it's been great to see some new faces in the team this year - Mia Reglar and Jasmine Heppenstall. There has been brilliant commitment from most players this season and we look forward to the girls developing their game experience and building their resilience in future games.

U16

This squad has a solid mix of those with club experience and good, strong school players. Izzy Muir, Alice Mundy and Ella Tuke-Hastings really showed their class in this first match as they closed down and took possession away from a strong Deer Park side. In this first outing we took a solid 2-1 win with lots of possession and finally a superb winning goal from a short corner. This match was also framed by the most beautiful rainbow as the girls played, so obviously luck was shining down on us!

The squad continued with grit and determination throughout the season, facing KLB in a final match, finishing with a tie 0-0. Special mentions to Ella Tuke-Hastings for her incredibly brave defending and Gen Bayliss for fearless goal keeping skills, not dissimilar to Maddie Hinch!



Football - Girls

Y7 Girls District Football Tournament

We have been running a girl's football club this half term, with some great commitment and numbers attending.

The Year 7 girls went to a district football tournament. They really enjoyed the tournament despite not progressing to the next round. Results as follows:

- TK lost 1-0
- Kingshill lost 2-0
- Archway won 4-1 - a goal from Annie Griffiths and a Jasmine Beach hatrick!
- KLB won 2-0 - both goals from Ashley Burgess
- Rednock lost 3-0

We came away as 4th overall. It was a great experience, well done girls!! Thank you to Mr Eckersley for taking them to the tournament.

Special mention:

Year 7 pupil Jasmine Beach has been picked to play for Swindon Town Football Club Under 12s. She's heading off to Barcelona for a tournament in June and we wish her lots of luck and plenty of goals!

Football - Boys

Y7

Year 7 football has seen huge numbers at training this Spring, on average we have had around 40 boys out there week in week out playing and developing their skills and game understanding. With such high numbers we have been able to consistently field a strong B team and we may have the opportunity to field a C team in an end of term friendly!

The Year 7 A and B's kicked off their season with a friendly against Kingshill School which saw the A's battle to a narrow 2-1 victory in a very high-quality game. Both teams are tipped to be some of the strongest in the district for this year group which puts the result into perspective. The B's enjoyed their match however unfortunately lost 3-1 in a highly competitive contest which is pleasing as it shows our strength in depth, which is always key to a team's success and the fact the boys will be playing 11 a-side next year.

The A's led by captain Will Lloyd, then played Deer Park school on the 27th February in another high-quality game which saw the boys come out on top in a 4-2 win. Most famously, the match will be remembered for being played during heavy snow showers amongst a week of freezing temperatures. By this stage we were starting to get a feel for our starting 9 and where all of the boys in the A squad are most effective. The A squad by this stage contains; Will Merrett, Will Lloyd, Dan Howard, Henry Slowly, Joe Warrington, Josh Watkins, Jack Overton, Jack Haycock, Harrison Hemmings, Reuben Rebello, Fletcher Hart, Corey Moisejebs.

On the 8th March the A's played Archway school from the West side of the district in a friendly. This is a school where football is their strong suit and who always produce good teams across the age groups. This proved to be another tough match which saw end to end play throughout, from the first to the last whistle. After going 1-0 down within the first 3 minutes, the boys showed their true grit and character and battled back to 1-1 where Josh Watkins

squeezed in a half chance after following up a loose ball whilst Jack Haycock pumped a shot off the outside of his boot from outside of the box which just dipped under the cross bar to make it 2-1! However, the boys were quick to say, they made hard work of the game and was by no means their top work.

On the 13th March the A squad travelled to Thomas Keble for the Cotswold District Tournament which saw us compete against; Kingshill, Deer Park, Sir William Romney's and Thomas Keble. After continually impressing in training, Kai De-Witt got the call up and joined the A squad for the tournament. The boys stayed true to form and won the competition in a fast and furious 14 minute match round-robin tournament which means they went through to Finals night at Rednock on Tuesday 20th March to play the top two sides from the West district tournament. All players played their part and the results were as follows; 1-0 vs Kingshill, 1-0 vs Sir William Romney's, 1-1 vs Deer Park, 2-0 vs Thomas Keble.

Y7 Cotswold Tournament Winners!

On the 20th March the boys took their spot as winners of the East District tournament and played Katherine Lady Berkeley's School in one of two semi-finals at Rednock School. This proved to be a very even game and ended 0-0 at full-time. 3 minutes each way of extra time followed and still neither team could be separated. The game then had to go to penalties, and unfortunately after KLB netting their 4th, we failed to secure ours and the match was theirs. The boys were drained but it was an excellent experience for them.

A third and fourth place play-off followed vs Kingshill who we have beaten twice earlier in the season - the boys, though, were incredibly flat after their semi-final and we eventually lost 4-2. The standard of football at this level is incredibly high, more so than other sports due to the sport's popularity. All four teams were full of Junior Premier League and various academy players.

This was another very positive term of sport for this year group, and we will look to seriously challenging every year going forward in football.



Special Note:

A special thank you must go to Mr Robins, one of our teaching assistants at Farmor's, who has selflessly given up his free time to assist in coaching and managing the large numbers at Y7 football training this Spring.



Football Continued.

Y8

It is probably fair to say that our Year 8s have not had the season that they may have been expecting, given the strong season they had last year, where they were the East District champions. Key players from last year's squad were still present, such as Jaden Wilkins, Lucun Simpkins, Thomas Hills, Thomas Gardiner, Rudy Finlayson and Albie Cornwell, whilst the addition of Dan Hunt, also at Swindon Academy along with Rudy, instilled high hopes for the season. The campaign started well with a hard fought 1-0 win over Sir William Romney's school at home and was the first time the boys played together in an 11-a side fixture together, a step up from 9 a-side in Year 7. Unfortunately, the boys did not kick on from here as they lost their next fixture 4-3 away to Thomas Keble school. The lads themselves acknowledge that they were still half asleep from their coach journey which saw them 4-0 down at half time. A few harsh words of reality between the players ignited the fires and they dominated the second half, but they still just fell short - they simply left themselves too much to do after their first half performance.

Things got worse in their next match vs Kingshill School, which was not helped by the fact that they were last year's District Champions! Again, we started very slowly, simply not at the races, a theme this year which saw us slow to the ball and dominated by the other team's possession, which resulted in Farmors being 6-0 down at half time! Like the Thomas Keble match, we showed our true character and why we were so successful last year by winning the second half and scoring the only goal, bringing the final score to 6-1, a small victory considering.

The final league game vs Deer Park was a cracker in some of the worse conditions I have witnessed, snow and blizzards dominated the match, whilst a fast paced and attacking game ensued and resulted in a 5-5 draw! 1 W, 2 L & 1 D might not have been what the boys were anticipating at the beginning of the season, however it shows that a resilient mindset, mental toughness and deep focus from the minute you start warming up to the last second of the game is just as important as technical and tactical ability in order to succeed. I am sure the boys will learn from this for next season!

Mr King

Y9

The year 9 boys' football team have had a positive 2017/18 season. An average of 24 boys have been attending training each week and they have all been working hard on both their individual skills and collective team play.

Sadly, the boys first district league match, played very early in January, against an extremely strong Katharine Lady Berkeley's School team (away) proved to be a disappointing start to the season. After a long journey in the minibus the boys just couldn't get going and ended up losing 7-0. However, the boys quickly regrouped and put in much better performances in their subsequent matches versus Cirencester Kingshill School (away) and Thomas Keble School (away). These two

matches were won 0-1 and 1-2 respectively.

In their third match, versus Marling Grammar School (home), the team put together another solid performance to win 2-0. This victory helped refocus the boys after their half term break and set up a 'winner takes all' match against Archway School, who beat them at the semi-final stage last year. The winner of this match would face the impressive Katharine Lady Berkeley's School in the district final.

Sadly, the game against Archway didn't start well as the toss was lost meaning the boys had to play against a strong wind and with the setting winter sun in their eyes for the first half. The first half was dominated by Archway, but the boys withstood the immense pressure extremely well as well as creating some good opportunities in attack. With just one minute until the break Archway won a corner and scored after a poor clearance. After the half time break the boys started brightly and after just one minute Freddie Woodcock managed to get onto the end of a lovely through ball to level the scores. Archway responded to this setback almost immediately and scored from another poorly dealt with corner. The boys did not panic and for the next 20 minutes played some great football, in both attack and defence, but just couldn't make their pressure count. With Archway still one goal ahead and Farmor's needing a win the boys adopted a more attacking formation for the last 10 minutes in an attempt to secure a place in the district final. Pleasingly, this created a number of opportunities, but Archway managed to score another goal on the counter attack to finish the game as 3-1 victors.

Despite losing their final league game and narrowly missing out on a place in the final for the second year running the boys have really enjoyed the season and have definitely improved the quality of their play.

Here's to next season!

Y10

Year 10 have had two challenging group games against the usual finalists of Deer Park and Marling. Unfortunately, we have lost both games by 2 goals which sees us come 3rd in the district and narrowly miss out on the final again this year. Perhaps most frustrating is that we were 2-0 up against Marling after an awesome performance for the first 25 mins but went on to lose 4-2. Hopefully the boys can take heart from this and continue to improve ready to have another go next year.

Mr Hockey

1st XI

The weather has not been great this Spring and has regularly disrupted fixtures in both Football and Rugby, however, we have played several matches and are looking forward to completing our season over the coming weeks.

The First XI have played Rednock (3-3) and Archway (lost 5-2) so face a tough task in qualifying for the quarter final stages of the County Cup with hard games against Marling and KLB to come. This will be the last year for some of our very talented footballers who have enjoyed

success with their year group since Y7. Captained by Charlie Bailey, the team also has Lawrie Mills, Henry Newman, Glenn Chalmers, Kieran Hiscox, Aidan Van Der Heiden, Olly Le Bon, Shaun Skinner and Lawrence Merrington - all of whom have featured prominently in the team that were district champions 3 years running from Y9 to Y11. This season we have

been supported by new students to the 6th form Jethro Kingsley and Oscar Welch as well as Freddie Dickinson and Elliot Doughty from Y12. I wish all of the boys a successful footballing future as they reach the end of their time at Farmor's.

Mr Hockey



Rugby

Y9

The Rugby season has also continued with our Y9 team, largely due to their success as well as weather delays. We still await the District Final match vs Marling, a game that has been postponed due to the weather on 3 separate occasions already. The new date is Weds 21st March at Stroud RFC where we take on a strong Marling team.

The boys have also continued with their EDF County Cup Plate competition and after emphatic victories against Dean Academy (51-0) and Gloucester Academy (27-0) we have qualified for the Plate Final. This game will be played at Kingsholm Stadium, the home of Gloucester RFC on Weds 2nd May vs Beaufort School (Gloucester) so is quite an occasion for the boys to look forward to. We will bring you news of these matches in the next edition.

Mr Hockey

Girls Rugby Key Stage 3 Rugby Club

As mentioned in the Autumn sports newsletter, Marianne Bradders a female rugby coach at Cirencester rugby and Simon Martin our local GRFU community coach have taken on the girls rugby coaching at KS3 on Friday lunchtimes this term, which has seen a core group of 13 Year 7 and 8's furthering the skills taught in the Autumn and begin to get them ready for competition.

Hopefully this will have inspired some of the girls to join a girls section at a local rugby club and also inspire more girls in the school to give this fantastic sport a go! Beth Tuke-Hastings one our Year 8 girls who has been at present at training consistently since we began the girls' rugby at Farmor's in the Autumn 2016, has been influential in rounding up the girls each week and getting them out no matter what the conditions!

The girls have a development day at Cirencester rugby club to look forward to after the Easter break, where they will engage in various activities with the Gloucestershire rugby community coaches and will play a development match against Kingshill girls' KS3 rugby side.

Mr King



Badminton

Y8

After a positive debut season last year, the Farmor's School badminton team resumed training in September keen to prepare for another season of fixtures. Pleasingly, a number of new students decided to give the sport a try and many of them have shown great potential and subsequently committed themselves to training each week.

Pleasingly, this year we have been able to expand the number of friendly fixtures and have played against Sir William Romney's School, Thomas Keble School, Balcarras School and Marling Grammar School. On each occasion we 'filled the mini bus' with 16 students and set off to test ourselves against the best from other schools. On each occasion all the students performed extremely well, with each fixture either being won or narrowly lost.

In early December one KS3 boys team and two KS4 boys teams were entered into the district tournament, which was again held at Cirencester Kingshill School. Both the KS4 boys teams played well, but came up against some very strong teams and ended up losing all of their games (losing narrowly on many occasions). However, the KS3

team, consisting on Saahen Shetty, Josh Watson, Theo Merrington and Bengy Dodds, played some exceptional badminton and managed to win their district competition by beating all the teams present. In doing so they qualified for the County badminton finals for the second year running.

At the County badminton finals, held in Cheltenham in early February, the boys lost their opening match against eventual winners Sir Thomas Rich's School (4 - 1). The boys quickly put the disappointment of losing their opening match to one side, regrouped and went on to win their next two matches against Marling Grammar School (3 - 2) and Dene Academy (5 - 0). In their last match, versus a very strong Balcarras School, the boys played extremely well but eventually lost a very tense match by 3 games to 2. This meant the boys came a very creditable third overall and were rewarded with a set of Gloucestershire School Games bronze medals.

Following the County finals two extra fixtures were arranged against schools who also reached the County finals. Sadly one of these fixtures fell victim to the 'Beast from the East', but pleasingly the remaining fixture against Marling Grammar School (away) survived. Frustratingly, on the day a number of students weren't able to play, which weakened

the team slightly, but the boys dug deep and played fantastically despite this. At the end of the fixture all four matches were lost (3-5, 3-5, 1-7 and 1-7), but the experience gained by those students with less experience of playing badminton was really useful.

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House Badminton

After the success of last years' inaugural House Badminton competition, that Barker won, the students again gathered in the sports hall after school on Thursday 22nd March to battle it out.

After a quick warm ups the matches soon began. Barker started well with a comprehensive victory over Farmor, but the game between Keble and Tame was much closer. By the end of this match Tame had just about done enough to beat Keble on count back. In the second round of matches both Barker and Tame managed to win comprehensively to set up a 'winner takes all match' between Barker and Tame in the final round of matches. During the final round of matches the tension between the teams was evident, with players from both teams urging each other on. In the end an extremely close match was won by Barker on count back. This meant that Barker were successful in retaining their title as House Badminton Champions. Tame, who were unlucky not to be crowned champions themselves, came second. The battle for third place also came down to the final match and saw Farmor overtake Keble in the league by winning their match by 4 games to 3.

Pos.	House	Points
1 st	Barker	14
2 nd	Tame	10
3 rd	Farmor	5
4 th	Keble	1



Success for Saahen

Towards the end of January Saahen Shetty, top seed for the KS3 boys team, attended the Wiltshire U16 boys singles badminton tournament in Melksham.

At the quarter final stage Saahen comfortably beat his opponent 21-12 to progress to the semi-finals. In his semi-final Saahen played outstandingly to comprehensively beat his opponent (21-7 and 21-8). Sadly, in the final Saahen could not quite do enough to win the tournament, eventually losing 21-14 and 21-15. This left Saahen ranked second overall and with a silver medal to add to his collection.

A few weeks later, after winning the event last year, Saahen returned to the Swindon District Under 15 Boys Badminton Championships determined to defend his title. After making a very strong start he progressed to the semi-final and beat his opponent 21-5. Saahen then came up against a strong opponent in the final. However, a strong performance saw him pull through, winning 21-15 and 21-12, to be crowned champion again.

Well done Saahen!

Mr Simpson



Rugby Success

Congratulations to Aaron Davis in Year 10 who has made it through to the Bath Player Development Group (PDG) and also been selected to represent the Dorset and Wiltshire County 1st XV team.

Aaron will hone his skills and develop as a player with Bath's PDG group until Year 11 at which point a decision will be made on whether he makes it into the 16-18 Bath Junior Academy. Great work Aaron and good luck!

Farmor's
student's
Archery
success

See pg 18

And more
sport inside...

...including Hockey, Rugby,
Netball & Badminton