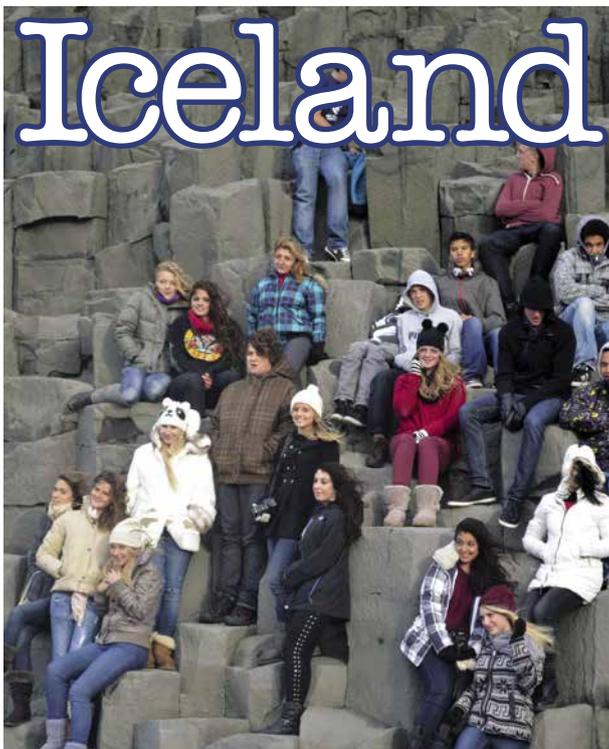




I hope the Iceland 2012 trip has given the 22 brave students who signed up some fabulous memories and an appreciation of the dynamic nature of our planet. From standing in the middle of a plate tectonic boundary to bathing in geothermally heated pools, Iceland gave us some unique experiences. The journey to Reykjavik was demanding with a long night of travelling and a stop in Oslo (probably the most expensive airport in the world), to our eventually bleary-eyed arrival touching down in the incredible lava field landscape. Some had travelled with fear as news of the 5.6 magnitude tremor in Northern Iceland, which occurred the day before, had reached us; this tremor was supposed to be a warning of the huge earthquake to come!

The students were fantastic company throughout the five days, being positive, humorous and receptive to new experiences. In addition to the amazing geological features, the trip allowed us to gain an appreciation of the Icelandic

Iceland



culture, as we had the chance for a late night visit to the local swimming pools in Reykjavik and to attend a concert as part of the Icelandic Airwaves festival. The more famous "must see" attractions certainly did not disappoint, including the Blue Lagoon and the Gullfoss waterfalls where, even though we took thousands of photos, not one could really capture the beauty of the feature. We also visited the Eyjafjallajökull Glacier which momentarily stopped the western world in 2010 with a massive release of ash. Please see the Humanities Board for a piece of that volcano!

We left Iceland in the early hours of Thursday morning, some again bleary-eyed from the long night of sky gazing as we attempted to get our first glimpse of the northern lights. Thank you Mr Hickman and Miss Carmen once again for your great company. It was a fantastic experience!

Chris Long



Maths Challenges

No sooner was half term over than students were faced with multiple Maths Challenges. On the morning of 6th November, some of our top Year 12 & 13 students sat the UK Senior Maths Challenge paper, a series of devious lateral thinking and logic questions where only the top 10% internationally are worthy of a gold certificate. Last year, Koen Rijks managed to achieve one of these gold certificates, and is now studying for a

Maths degree at Jesus College, Oxford. This year, we went one better, with two gold certificates, Theo Morris and Jeroen Rijks being the top scorers. A big congratulations to all participants, as 12 out of 14 entrants gained a certificate.

At the same time, the 6th and 7th November saw the first European Maths Challenge, an online competition which tested both students' curriculum knowledge and their ability to complete mental arithmetic against the clock. The mental arithmetic challenge was a real-time head to head competition against other students from all around Europe, and

students from Year 5 right up to Year 12 all played their part in representing the school, answering a phenomenal 90,000 questions over the course of the two days. Special mention must go to Laura McEvoy Roantree in Year 8, whose persistence and hard work meant she spent nearly the entire 48 hour duration of the challenge as one of the top 10 scorers in Spain.

Pete Willis



Poetry...Straight From The ♥!

Old and New

This year's *Poetry Week* was very much a mixture of old and new. We had familiar activities like *Poetry Post*, with our Sixth Form acting as Poetry Postal Workers, diligently delivering delightful ditties – note the use of alliteration! We also explored new ways of approaching poetry in the classroom.

Shakespeare

Our focus was the heart: poetry written from the heart and poetry learned by heart. Who could be nearer to the heart of any English teacher than the Bard of Avon, William Shakespeare? During our assembly to celebrate *Poetry Week*, Mrs Harwood and her Year 7 class performed a speech from Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, demonstrating how associating gestures with words is a very effective way of learning information.

Love

Miss Longthorne's Year 8 group wittily presented a poetic battle about love and asked us to vote. Does love exist or is it just a poet's dream? Our students voted quite convincingly for the latter – love doesn't exist! Let's see if they still think the same on 14th February.



Prize Winners

The standard of entries was incredibly high this year with a huge variety of styles and forms used. The winners were:

- Year 7: Tony Fridman
- Year 8: Rachel Tabizel
- Year 9: Riccardo Pierre
- Year 10: Darius Gilbey
- Year 11: Eleanor Musgrove
- Best Latin poem and best critical appreciation essay: Oscar Amrein
- Best group poem: Eryn and Tom in 9AS
- Best illustrated poem: Renata Khalikura and Georgia Willetts

To reinforce EIC's focus on public speaking, we also held a reciting competition. A few brave contestants recited poems and speeches in front of the whole school. Damian Lewis in Year 12 was voted the winner for his faultless delivery of Macbeth's "Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow" soliloquy.

Poetic Puzzles

There were also poetic puzzles to solve. In this year's *Poetry Hunt* students had to match poems and pictures in order to break a fiendish code. The answer was *King Lear* by William Shakespeare. Our final puzzle asked students to make a literary link. What do James Bond and Poetry Week have in common? Poetry of course! Students were asked to name the poem M recites in *Skyfall*, the new Bond film. Louise Frazer was the first to identify that it was Tennyson's *Ulysses*.

More to come!

Poetry Week is only the start of our literary activities throughout the year. There will be many more to take part in – we'll keep you posted (poetically, of course!).

Dr Morris and the English Team

Sixth Form Looking Smart - an insider's view

When Mrs. Lawrence came into our class last year to say that the Sixth Form would have to wear a more formal dress code, I was the first one to put my hand up to oppose the idea. Having looked up to the Sixth Form

in earlier years, I had always longed to be able to wear my own clothes, almost like a never-ending 'own clothes' day and, initially, the idea of having to dress in suit trousers and a shirt everyday seemed a bit tedious! However, as we have progressed into Year 13, we realise that we are the role models for the entire school, and we have to dress

appropriately to reflect this. Not only that, our new dress code is SO much easier and less stressful in the morning. We do not have to rummage around in our wardrobes to mix and match the day's outfit.

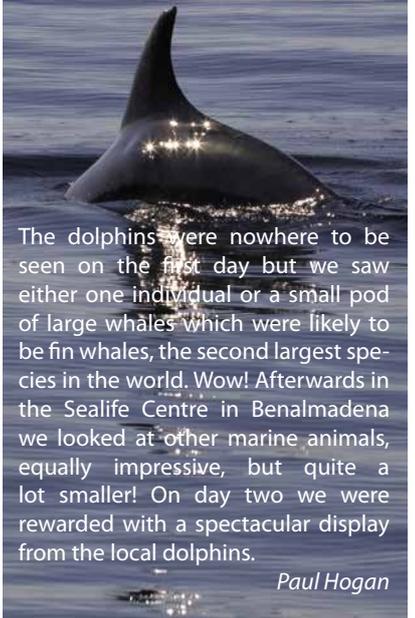
Other schools, parents and teachers alike now see us as impeccably dressed, smart, young adults: a first impression that has a positive, lasting effect. Throughout the term teachers have complimented us on our dress, stating that it makes us look respectable, professional and presentable, allowing both students and teachers to get to work quickly and efficiently. Not only this, we come to school more focused and ready for a day's work. So thinking back to when I was the first to put my hand up to oppose Mrs. Lawrence on the subject of Sixth Form dress, I now believe that she was right: the smart dress code should and does reflect what the Sixth Form is all about. A serious work ethic and a mature, thoughtful approach are both expected in a place of work.

Sam Packwood - Year 13



Key Stage 3 Science Trips

Our Key Stage 3 Science trips set out for the Mediterranean in search of dolphins and whales. Each day began with a talk here at school on some of the species we hoped to find, after which we set off from Fuengirola port in search of these stunning animals!



The dolphins were nowhere to be seen on the first day but we saw either one individual or a small pod of large whales which were likely to be fin whales, the second largest species in the world. Wow! Afterwards in the Sealife Centre in Benalmadena we looked at other marine animals, equally impressive, but quite a lot smaller! On day two we were rewarded with a spectacular display from the local dolphins.

Paul Hogan



No one could have escaped the warm feel-good factor that was generated by our inspirational athletes at LONDON 2012. As the games concluded a lot of faith was restored in both sport and the nation. I have to confess that prior to the event my own feelings on professional sport had been repeatedly eroded by over paid footballing prima donnas.



If any story was to change misconceptions on professionalism in sport then it was that which surrounded the Men's Triathlon at London 2012. Unbeknownst to many, Alistair Brownlee had sustained a serious and debilitating Achilles injury only six months prior to the biggest race of his life. Experts purported that the only solution was an aqua

treadmill. As I watched Alistair Bownlee complete the 10km run in his Triathlon event in a time that would have seen him finish 3rd in Mo Farah's Final, I could not help wonder how many other professional athletes would have spent the time personally digging their own training pool in the back garden!!

Triathletes are different creatures. It is an event that demands maximum commitment and a high tolerance of pain. In October several of these creatures were to emerge from EIC pool, hop on a bike and head up the hill into the campo. The slightly cooler time of year, coupled with the event being nowhere near examination period meant that every race was oversubscribed. No other school I am aware of would get such a response for an event so filled with pain. But then this is EIC.

It is impossible to commend all our triathletes individually but I must mention Isabella Williamson for an outstanding performance, Grigorii Osipov for his guts and determination and lastly the softly spoken Clare Esculier who, despite being in only her first few weeks in the school, has already competed in the Gala and won the Triathlon. Allez Clare! However, I conclude with a story about Hadi in 8MJC. Hadi does not like running and last year fell off his bike badly in the Campo meaning he was unable to complete the event. This year it was assumed he would not take part. However, after wilfully completing the swim and cycle Hadi was given the chance of stopping, "No way Sir" came the response and off he went. The indomitable spirit that this event nurtures means, I hope, that it will forever be a mainstay on the EIC sporting calendar.

With thanks to the police, ground-staff and the invaluable PTA for all their help in making the day possible!

Alastair Gibson

Swimming Gala



It was of little surprise to see the successes achieved in the 2012 International Schools' Gala. Indeed, the dedication and commitment that had been shown by hordes of students throughout July & August meant we entered the competition against St Anthony's, Alboran, and BIC in exceptional form. Some fantastic swims and expert starts, turns and finishes saw the secondary squad confirm their status as the swimming school on the coast.

Proof of the fantastic development of this squad in the past few years is shown by a long list of the fastest ever times recorded in each discipline. Our congratulations to you all!



The Department also graciously accepted a kind plaque of acknowledgement from our colleagues at Alboran. The EIC are very proud of our close relationship with this school which facilitates sporting, cultural and linguistic benefits for both parties. Long may this prosperous relationship continue.

Alastair Gibson

Featured Musician

In this issue, in the words of Alan Partridge, we have "A new regular feature" to the newsletter: Featured Musician. This month we feature clarinettist, Elliot Lee. Elliot has been learning the clarinet for just under a year with Mr. Napier and is already taking his Grade 2 exam in December, which is an impressive achievement. He is already a member of the orchestra and has recently also been accepted into the Wind Quartet. I caught up with Elliot when he had a spare moment to ask him a few questions about learning the clarinet.

Why did you want to take up the clarinet?

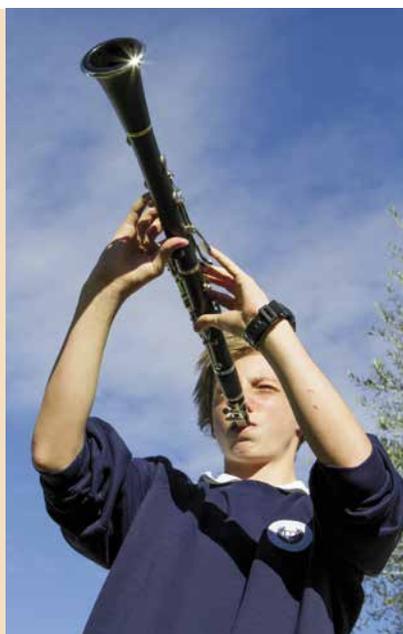
I had always wanted to play an instrument. I thought that playing an instrument would allow me to have something other than sports to be passionate about.

What are your aims in terms of playing?

To do well in my Grade 2 exam and also to play at a more advanced level.

Do you believe the research that says learning a musical instrument makes you smarter? Do you feel smarter since you took up the clarinet?

I do believe that this is true! I do not necessarily feel smarter,



but I feel as though playing the clarinet requires more focus and attention in order to play the instrument.

How do you organise your practice time with all the other activities and homework you do?

Most of the time I spend about 20 to 25 minutes in between homework and my sports. Sometimes I have to switch the order though.

What is your advice to others who want to take up a musical instrument?

Not to give up and always keep trying because music is a wonderful thing to be able to do and lots of fun as well!

If you are interested in learning the clarinet please see Mr. Horsey for a letter.

Simon Horsey

Year 3 Numeracy Project

In Year 3 we have been collecting spare change. We counted it, sorted it and learnt lots about euros. After plenty of research, we walked to Mercadona and



every child bought an item of dog or cat food. We are donating the food (and the remaining money) to PAD, a dog and cat shelter. We had some furry visitors from the shelter to say thank you!

Museo Automovilístico

This year Reception was fortunate to visit the Museo Automovilístico in Málaga for the first time. And what a fantastic opportunity it was!

The children and teachers were fascinated by the substantial car collection; we all had our own personal favourites. We got to learn about the development of the motor car throughout the last century, as well as peering into the future where we saw a range of cars that use sustainable energies.

After that the children even had a driving lesson and learned about road signs and traffic safety. The Reception children should be commended for their outstanding behaviour, not that we would expect anything less from EIC children.



Year 6 - World War 2 Day

Year 6 has had a fantastic day reminiscing about the lives of people during World War II. Our classrooms have been full of army officers, fighter pilots, evacuees,



Vera Lynn and Marlene Dietrich. Winston Churchill even made an appearance!

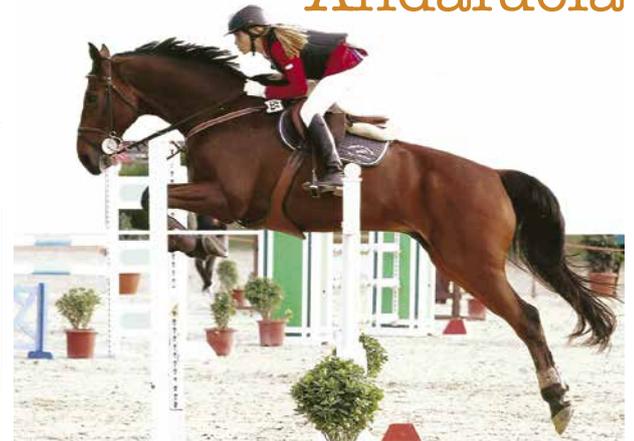
The children have had a busy day creating poems about the Blitz using similes and metaphors to make imaginative comparisons; following a ration recipe to make cinnamon cookies; learning about the life of Anne Frank and celebrating the end of the war with a VE Day party.

A huge thank you to all the children and parents for all their effort and enthusiasm which has made the day so successful!

December Dates for your Diary

- 1st PTA Christmas Bazaar
- 5th Sixth Form Show
- 6th Holiday (Constitution Day)
- 12th Primary Xmas Shows
- 13th Primary Xmas Shows
- 17th Christmas Evening Concert
- 19th Polar Bear Challenge
- 19th Last Day of Term

Campeonato de Andalucia



A special mention of Noor Massoud from Year 7 who was so successful in the recent Andalucian Show-jumping Championships. Have a look at her on YouTube: so accomplished and so elegant!

Hallowe'en

All our Primary children got into the Halloween spirit on Friday 26th October as they dressed up and played Hallowe'en-themed games during Golden Time.

Children put on a performance for family and friends of EIC, together with celebrating the wonderful efforts put into their costumes. In the afternoon there was light-hearted fun where children heard spooky stories, played games like apple bobbing and created mummies with toilet paper. Great fun was had by all!

