The second edition of The Lord Grey School Magazine has been a mammoth task. The standard set by last year’s publication was high, but this year we have exceeded our own expectations and produced a comprehensive review of the work and extra-curricular life at Lord Grey.

On behalf of the Magazine Team, I would like to thank everybody who contributed. I hope that you all enjoy reading The Lord Grey School Magazine.

In particular, many thanks go to Gill Mohan for assisting with the typing, Adrian Lee for the artwork, Ian Oldham and Di Stewart for printing and all students and staff who provided work and agreed for it to be published.

Happy reading!

Rachel Jones, Editor
It hardly seems possible that just last year, we launched our first School Magazine. Almost twelve months on, I am delighted to introduce our second publication. There is something for everyone here. The variety and creativity of the articles and events in these pages represent the talents of Lord Grey students and staff alike.

Life at Lord Grey often moves quickly, with many changes witnessed at almost every turn. Everyone has a part to play in our evolution, and I am delighted that we have been able to chronicle just a few of the developments here.

A publication of this nature is often an intensely personal effort. My special thanks go to Rachel Jones for her endless energy in making The School Magazine possible. Thanks also go to those students and staff who have contributed articles, drawings and photographs, and to the Reprographics Department for their printing efforts.

The National College for School Leadership came into Lord Grey earlier this year to film us as a rapidly improving school. This magazine is proof that we are continuing to build on our successes.

Excellence: Dare to Succeed

Despina Pavlou, Headteacher
PRESENTATION EVENING 2001

On Friday 14th December last year, staff, students, governors, parents and special guests came together to celebrate the school achievements of 2000-2001. The Order of Ceremony was as follows:

Welcome
Robert Wilkes, Senior Student

The Headteacher's Report
Despina Pavlou

Highlights of the School Year
Steven Allsopp & Zahira Jaffa, Senior Students

In Pursuit of Excellence
Elizabeth Brown, Alison Cowlard, Laura Fox, Stacey McConnell, Emma Perry, Megan Rubin

Introduction of Guests
Benjamin Gregory, Senior Student

Presentation of Commendation & Form Certificates
Aldred Evershed, Chairman of Governors

Presentation of Public Examination Certificates and Individual Awards

Address by Principal Guest
Dr Julian E. Pedley, Medical and Legal Adviser with the Medical Protection Society and Chairman of Willen Hospice

Vote of Thanks and Closing Arrangements
Nathan Hornby, Senior Student

The evening was very successful, and was greatly enjoyed by everyone who attended. This is the highlight of our calendar year and it is held in tribute to the soaring standards of our learning community. Many certificates and commendations were awarded to our students, who had achieved excellence and had dared to succeed.

During the Autumn Term, Luing Cowley stepped down as Chairman of Governors. To show our gratitude to him for his long years of dedicated service to the school, Lord Grey commissioned a portrait from Adrian Lee, our Head of Art. Adrian painted an oil on canvas portrait which now hangs above the Honours Board in the Main Hall. Mr Cowley was also presented with a pencil portrait, (shown right) also by Adrian. Nigel Read, Design Technology Teacher, hand crafted a set of pens which were presented to our guest speaker, Dr Julian Pedley. After the ceremony, all the guests were invited to a buffet in the dining hall arranged by Fatima Al-Hassan and Lord Grey Catering. It was a pleasure to see and speak with so many guests, and to catch up with former staff and students.

By Sue Telfer, Deputy Headteacher 4
The Awards

SUBJECT AWARDS
These were presented to students in the senior part of the school who showed the greatest achievement as a result of personal endeavour.

The Art Award                     Simon Ashby
The Biology Award                 Eve Wisdom
The A Level Business Studies Award Christopher Barnett
The GNVQ Business Studies Award   Bhavina Patel
The Chemistry Award               Luke Jenkins
The Design Technology Food Award  Janine Leeder
The Design Technology Graphics Award Keiron White
The Design Technology Award       Sarah Watkinson
The Drama Award                   Cameron Parks
The French Award                  Suzanne Allington
The Geography Award               Fay Goodridge
The German Award                  Abigail Prince
The History Award                 Andrew Blow
The ICT Award                     Kirsty Gardner
The Peter Fraser Award for Mathletics David Adams
The Mathematics Award             Ryan McKeith
The Physics Award                 Nathan Hornby
The Religious Education Award     Lauren Beach
The Spanish Award                 Carly Theodori
The Theatre Studies Award         Jonathan Tan
The Wemyss-Holden Music Award    Timo McVey

THE HEADTEACHER’S AWARD for Excellence at GCSE
Ellen Simpson

THE GOVERNORS’ AWARD for Excellence at ‘A’ Level
Victoria Seymour

YEAR AWARDS

The Year 11 Work Experience Award
Jennifer Good

The Year 12 Award for Commitment to the School
Steven Allsopp

THE PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Paul Roberts-Cowley

THE LUIING COWLEY SHIELD for Contributions to the Sixth Form
Rebecca Lees

The Lord Grey Association Charity Shield
Kathryn Phillips

SPORTS AWARDS

Badminton                       Cheryl Line
Basketball                       Michael Wordley
Cricket                          Daniell Charlesworth
Cross Country                    Alex Quinn
Dance                            Rebecca Rance
Hockey                           Stuart Hardy
Netball                          Gemma Presley
Rugby                            William Hignell
Soccer                           Michael McKenzie
The Sportsman of the Year Award  Matthew Fraser
The Sportswoman of the Year Award Gemma Simmons

COMMEMNATION CERTIFICATES
Awarded to the students who earned most commendations

YEAR 8
Ben Roberts 9D                   Kane Burton 8J
Marie-Claude Hedley 8E          Kayleigh Bevan 8K
Simon Bambridge 8F              Steven Eastbury 8L
Kayleigh Ashton 8G              Adam Beechy 8M
Kelly Longmore 8H               Neil Jefkins 8N

YEAR 9
Ben Roberts 9D                   Michelle Morgan 9J
Gurvinder Mahoon 9E             Elaine Cameron 9K
Jennifer Allsopp 9F             Bethan Webster 9L
Jamie Hoppes 9G                 James Higgins 9M
Lee Kaye 9H                      Jade Jolliffe 9N

YEAR 10
Louise Norman 10E               Alison Cowlard 10J
Melissa Watson 10F              Kim Pauley 10K
Charlie Antoniou-Savva 10G     Laura Wickham 10L
Sarah Webb10H                   Daniel Lilley10M

FORM CERTIFICATES
Awarded to the students who contributed most to their form's activities

YEAR 8
Roxanne O'Riordan 8D           Karen Akehurst 8J
Christopher Watt 8E            Lewis Bettle 8K
Ajay Sharma 8F                  Stuart Rose 8L
Charlene Stickland 8G          Lucy Ferguson 8M
Roxanne Bowler 8H               Katherine Simpson 8N

YEAR 9
Leanne Wilson 9D               Kelly Halls 9J
Kirsty Grenville 9E            Nicola Zscherpel 9K
Mark Ray 9F                     Rachel Fell 9L
Rebecca Rance 9G               Joseph Moore 9M
Daniel Cutting 9H               James Hammond 9N

YEAR 10
Mark Smith 10E                  Ian Leathers 10J
Marc Austin 10F                 Gabriel Wallace 10K
Stuart Hoare 10G                Ricky Mongiardi 10L
James Kelly 10H                 Joanna Brown 10M
“Children of Eden” by Stephen Schwartz has been described as the hardest and most ambitious musical to ever be performed at Lord Grey. It was all the dream of Mr. Brierly. Ten years before we performed “Children of Eden”, he had been to see it performed professionally. It had left an impression on him, one that left him determined to put the show on himself. Until this year, the right time and venue had never come along - it is a very large production to stage. However, this year Mr Brierly knew that with a little bit of help from a great musical band, a cast who were all there to support each other and a small army of staff to help out, it might just be possible; hard work, but possible.

The audition was a success, and Mr Brierly was able to cast the fifty characters needed. This alone was a major achievement since every character must sing at some point, and of these, there are twenty main roles. Add to the mix the need for fifteen characters to sing solo parts ~ either entire songs, or a few lines ~ and you will understand how challenging “Children of Eden” really is.

There was now Adam and Eve and their family, Noah and Mama and their family, a choir known as the storytellers and a group to play the animals. Rehearsals were hard work, especially because we had so many lines to learn, but they were really fun. It was quite difficult at first to imagine what it would sound like and look like on stage because there were so many different parts, but gradually, we began to get a feel for the final production. It was also challenging because the stage was looking so bare ~ something was missing.

Then one day the set just appeared! First came the scaffolding and then an enormous ark, along with the tree of forbidden fruit. It was all there! At last it was time for our dress rehearsal, just a few days before the show itself was due to open. The build up to the rehearsal was exciting and we could feel the energy in the air. It was fantastic to see the costumes, the band, props, make up, lights and even some cameras!

The show itself was great and the audience loved it! The crowd got bigger every night as people were telling their friends how good it was. We had filled the hall! After each performance, Mr Brierly would meet with the cast and give his opinion, and a few pointers, on the evening’s show. After the final show, we were all keen to know what he thought, and he said that we had achieved his goals. This made us all ecstatic and really pleased that we had put in so much hard work and effort to be part of such a challenging show. We also had countless compliments from the audience, band and teachers.

After the last show, we all changed out of costume and returned them to the rack. That was it. The show was all over. I’d never feel the buzz of being on stage again. Well, until next year....

By David Crisp, Year 10
ROCK CHALLENGE 2002

Rock Challenge was started in the 1980’s in Sydney, Australia as a local drama competition. In 1988, Peter Sjoquist and Kerry Hayes became interested in the popularity of the competition and decided to inject a more professional approach into it. They agreed on giving it the name ‘The Australian Rock Eisteddfod Challenge’. When visiting Australia in 1995, Inspector Mark Pontin of Hampshire Constabulary, heard of the dance and drama competition and took interest in viewing the performances. When seeing the show he was very impressed and was convinced that it would be successful in the UK. On returning home, he persuaded his constabulary to bring the competition to his area. He finally achieved this in 1996. Since then, UK Rock Challenge has expanded and has become what we know it to be today.

As the UK Rock Challenge is performed by the younger generation, its main aim is to encourage and educate teenagers not to drink alcohol, take any form of drugs or smoke cigarettes. The police have a strong connection with this and often help sponsor the event.

Lord Grey School has been involved in Rock Challenge for the past three years. The event is enjoyed by students and teachers alike, because both put in the effort needed to deliver a good performance. We started to rehearse in November 2001. Miss Grey, along with some of the Sixth Formers, produced an idea, which slowly grew to an excellent performance: “A Game of Chance”. The concept of the performance was that we all have to make tough decisions throughout our lives whether they are good or bad.

The main theme to our performance was to have a toy box containing many games and toys. These consisted of Chess, Snakes and Ladders, Playing Cards, Good Toys (Dolls), Bad Toys (Soldiers), a New Toy and a Girl. Each game and toy had its own specific dance for the performance, choreographed by Miss Grey, the Sixth Formers and some of the students themselves. The costumes, props and scenery were designed and created by Miss Grey, Mr Brierly and Mrs Devereux, and the students helped with any finishing touches.
The day of the competition finally arrived, in March, after five months of dedication and hard work from everybody involved. Once we arrived at the Oxford Apollo Theatre, and had made our way to our seats, we had to wait until it was our time to rehearse in front of the other participating schools. Believe it or not, the rehearsal was fun, especially when the Rock Challenge crew got all the teachers from the participating schools up on stage, singing and dancing.

We were the last school to take the stage and so we had the longest time to get ready. Make-up, hair and costumes were all carried out well with only a few hitches made! Gemma Peppard styled the Cards’ hair styles. Lauren, Laura and Katie helped with the other dancer’s hair styles. Miss Grey and Miss Bird were in charge of make-up and it all looked very professional! With a few minutes to go before our performance, we surprised Miss Grey with a gift, for our appreciation for all of the hard work and dedication she has put into Rock Challenge from day one. After she had managed to stop crying, Miss Grey and Mr Brierly gave us a good pep talk to calm our nerves. We then relaxed a little, gave ourselves one last practice and a cheer to encourage each other. There was another school with the name ‘A Game of Chance’ so we offered to change ours to ‘A Roll of the Dice’. This was agreed just as we were about to perform.

We performed excellently! The final results were announced and Cranbourne School came third, Headington School second and Cheney School came in first place. Lord Grey received the Performer’s Choice Award for the Best Atmosphere!

We had a brilliant day. Thanks to Miss Grey and Mr Brierly for letting us experience Rock Challenge.

By Kylie Webster and Sabrina Campbell, Year 10
What a Year!

What an absolutely fantastic year it has been for sport at Lord Grey School, and in particular, for Basketball! As a former student, and now a teacher at Lord Grey, it has been wonderful to see a return to the winning ways of the past. Even the National Competition’s Secretary, John Ridgewell, rang me to say how good it was to see Lord Grey back involved again after so many years. So, just what has happened since September?

Year 8
The MK Schools Basketball League has been reformed for the first time in over 20 years, and our Year 8 Boys were the first school to be invited to participate. They also won all of their friendly games this season and only narrowly missed out on a place in their first ever MK School Basketball Tournament Final, finishing third in the area.

Year 9
Following on from the successful Thames Valley Youth Games in June, which saw a squad which included several of our boys taking first place, the team also narrowly missed out on a place in the local finals, securing a well deserved third place.

Year 10
Undefeated in all games this season, our Year 10 Boys were the first to achieve success, securing the MK School’s Trophy by winning against the Milton Keynes Basketball Academy, based at Stantonbury.

Year 11
I must say that it has been an absolute pleasure and privilege to have worked with this group of players. I have been involved in Basketball as a player and coach for over twenty years now and I can honestly say that I have never worked with such a hard working and motivated group of players as these! To have a group of players that are prepared to listen and do exactly what you ask of them, and still have the ability and intelligence to respond on their own is what every Coach desires. What makes it even better is when you consider that many of the Players are still only in Year 10! Their achievements include:

- Beating every school in Milton Keynes
- Beating the East of England Champions to earn a place in the National Semi-Finals.
- Winning the MK & District Finals
- Becoming Southern England Regional u16 Champions.
- Qualifying unbeaten as Buckinghamshire Champions in the All England Group Competition.
- Beating all of the Schools in the u19’s tournament.

Despite losing the Semi Final game, the team showed themselves to be true sportsmen, shaking the hands of the opposition and the officials. I believe that this says more about the standards of our teams at Lord Grey, than any result we could have ever achieved.

By Gary Timson, PE Teacher
FOOTBALL

YEAR 9 BOYS
Our Year 9 Boys Football team has had a fantastic year and for the first time in the school's history, won the Buckinghamshire County Cup. During this competition they scored twenty-six goals and conceded only one goal.

1st round       Beat Amersham, 5 - 0
2nd round       Beat Sir Frank Markham, 4 - 0
3rd round       Beat Burnham Upper, 5 - 1
Semi final      Beat Ousedale, 7 - 0
Final           Beat Great Marlowe 6 - 0

There have been some noticeable performances throughout the season: Mark Gaylor scored 4 as a substitute, allowing Lord Grey to beat Ousedale 4 - 3; Robert McDonald dominated the midfield with Matt Line, Chris Hunt and Adam Miller (Captain); Daniel Monaghan proved to be difficult to beat in goal and Simon King always made himself busy.

Squad members (pictured above): Daniel Monaghan, Ricky Hazard, Ricky McMannus, Sean Smith, Matt Lyons, Adam Miller (c) Robert McDonald, Matt Line, Chris Hunt, Daniel Brackett, Daniel Vincent, Simon King, Mark Gaylor, Gary Silver, Sam Giles. Player of the season - Chris Hunt.

YEAR 11 BOYS
The Year 11 team ended a fine four years at the school with a place in the Milton Keynes Schools 6 Aside Finals. Having previously triumphed during 1999, the boys went through to this year’s final in convincing style with noticeable performances from Stuart Reynolds and Josh McAdoo. The final against Leon School was a tightly fought affair. Both teams were awarded penalties, (ours in the last minute of the game) and both missed. After extra time the scores were still 0 - 0, and we finally lost out during the sudden death penalties.

The Team: Josh Mcadoo, David Collins, Lee Darcy, Stephen Dart, Stuart Reynolds and Ben Hampson.

By Steff Healy, Head of PE

CROSS COUNTRY
For the first time at Lord Grey, the lower school competed in an interform cross country event this year. Everyone ran and contributed to an overall score. Winners, second and third place runners were presented with trophies and medals during whole school assembly. Students who finished in the top five went on to represent the school in the Milton Keynes District Cross Country Race at Campbell Park.

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Year 8 Boys</th>
<th>Year 8 Girls</th>
<th>Year 9 Boys</th>
<th>Year 9 Girls</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Michael Horan</td>
<td>Amy Turnball</td>
<td>Robert McDonald</td>
<td>Sarah Miller</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Daniel Thom</td>
<td>Carly Snow</td>
<td>Adam Beechey</td>
<td>Gemma Wall</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Liam Leske</td>
<td>Sarah Corrigan</td>
<td>Daniel Vincent</td>
<td>Karen Akehurst</td>
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Year 8 winning tutor group, 8N    Year 9 winning tutor group, 9H

By Simi Gill, PE Teacher
YEAR 8 RUGBY

In September 2001, Mr. Halsey started to coach the Year 8 Boys Rugby Team. Some of the team already played for local clubs, but some were new to the sport and had only played it in PE. It took about a month of training before we started to play as a team.

We played our first matches at Manor Fields under flood lights against St. Pauls and Ousedale Schools. Both games were close. Lord Grey beat St. Pauls 12 – 5, but lost in a tight game to Ousedale.

We had a return fixture against Ousedale at Olney. The scores were level at half time and Lord Grey dominated the second half, but were unlucky when a lucky break from Ousedale gave them the match. However, the team played well and showed signs of improvement.

The team took part in the County Tournament, held at Amersham and Chiltern Rugby Club. There were two pools of five teams. Lord Grey won all the matches in their pool, beating strong opposition from the south of the county. In the final we met Ousedale who had reached the final despite losing one match and drawing another. Sadly, the outcome was the same as at Manor Fields, and Ousedale won 10 – 5. Lord Grey played very well and were disappointed not to be the County Champions. The team were presented with medals and a shield.

The day after the tournament, Lord Grey played Denbigh and the tired legs found it tough going! Denbigh’s team were a lot bigger than ours and despite good team play, Lord Grey were defeated 19 – 0. The match was then cancelled due to appalling weather conditions which had not helped with ball handling.

We were also taken to Twickenham to watch England play Romania in an Autumn International. It was a superb win for England, although the match was a bit one sided.

The Year 8 rugby team would like to thank Mr Halsey for coaching us and Mr. Healy for driving the mini bus.

By Jack Couzens, Year 8

CRICKET

YEAR 8

Cricket nets started early in the year and our team is developing very well. Many of the lads have not played a great deal before therefore they are learning as we progress through the season. So far this season we have had good performances from Robert Hatcher and Richard Tonkin.

YEAR 10

The Year 10 cricket team have been undefeated since Year 8 and have worked hard in the nets to improve their batting and bowling techniques. Last year saw a hat-trick of wickets by Daniell Charlsworth in 3 balls, excellent scoring by Mark Nelson and Simon Merrell and competent performances by Joe Moore and Gary Collins. This season started well with a convincing win against Shenley Brook End.

By Rob Clarke, PE Teacher
BADMINTON

Lord Grey have entered all available competitions this year as part of the MK badminton project and students were placed a commendable 5th place in the league out of ten schools. An excellent achievement in the squads’ first year! There have been exceptional performances by Cheryl Line (County and U17 England Squad), Dean Shipp, Adam Keeves, Samantha Dawson, Amy Turnbull and Joanne Barlow.

Badminton at Lord Grey is now played at recreational, interform and inter school level from Year 8 through to the Sixth Form. Our students have played in teams at Milton Keynes District and County Level. We have also hosted a B.A.E. leaders award for all the PE staff and some Year 12 students. This has helped to enhance the quality of our teaching and learning at curricular and extra curricular level. We also were lucky enough to be coached by Manfred Tripp (England international player) for several group coaching sessions to help prepare our squad for the next season.

By Karen Jones, PE Teacher

ATHLETICS

Athletic events this year have included Milton Keynes District Trials, County Championships, Milton Keynes combined events, Milton Keynes track and field events and Inter school competitions. Our students have trained with commitment and dedication every Tuesday and Thursday after school.

We put forward a number of students for County Athletic Trials at Stantonbury on the 1st May and the following students qualified: Daniel Cutting (triple jump), Chelsey Hurren (Javelin), Racheal Lockhart (Discus), Sarah Miller (1500m) and Jemmah Wall (200m).

Congratulations also go to individual performers who made some impressive achievements this year: Oleg Podabin represented Great Britain in several national and international gymnastics competitions; Gareth Perry played football for the District and Northampton Town; Paul Evans represented East Midlands in rugby; Robert Mcdonald is a member of the Cambridge Football Academy; Cheryl Line played on the Under 17 England Badminton Squad; Stuart Hardy played with the South of England Hockey Squad; Richard Read came third in the National Judo Trials and Mark Nelson played cricket for Northamptonshire and toured South Africa with the South of England Squad.

Milton Keynes Council run a Talent Development Programme (TDP) for students who perform exceptionally well in their activities. This year has seen a large number of students from Lord Grey School participating in these programmes:

Under 13 Boys Talent Development Football (District Team): Stephen Higgens, Kenny Hollis, Adam Keeves and Richie Hanmore. The season ended with some of our boys playing against Crystal Palace.
Under 14 Boys Talent Development Football (District Team): Adam Miller, Matt Line and Chris Hunt.
Under 15 Boys Talent Development Football (District Team): Ben Chouhan, Gareth Perry, Jamie Hopp and Sean Keeves.
Under 16 Rugby: Paul Evans (East Midlands Squad)
Under 16 Girls Talent Development Football: Lucy Ferguson
Under 16 Milton Keynes Lions Basketball: Daniel Williams, Jeremy Martin, Ben Sampson, Liam Cort, David Green, Matthew Gillic and Chris Philips.

By Steven Halsey, PE Teacher
**SPORTING RESULTS**

**2001 TO 2002**

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<tr>
<th>YEAR 9</th>
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**BOYS HOCKEY**

**SENIOR**

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**MIXED BADMINTON**

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**BOYS RUGBY**

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**BOYS BASKETBALL**

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(Lord Grey results shown first)
OUR LANGUAGE RESIDENTIALS ~ LONGRIGG, CUMBRIA

THE LONGRIGG WEEKS

Following an uneventful train journey from Milton Keynes to our final destination in Cumbria, we unloaded our belongings at the centre. Following a fire drill, distribution of kit, a thorough exploration of the buildings and its grounds and a light lunch, we went into Sedbergh. Here students spent a couple of hours drawing a plan of the town, which they labelled in Spanish.

The students were divided into four mixed teams for the duration and we awarded points for various activities. We were responsible for cooking our own meals and tidying up. Every day we cooked Spanish or Mexican meals, each group taking a turn not only to prepare the meal but also to design the menu so other groups would know what to order. At meal times students were encouraged to order their food, to ask their companions for the salt, pepper and water and to comment on the food in Spanish. We soon found that the students used this vocabulary appropriately in other situations.

Evenings at the centre were busy times and apart from one football match (yawn! yawn!), students had to postpone their television hours until the weekend back at home. Every evening, after dinner, the group wrote their individual diary for the day in Spanish. The group started with five verbs on Monday and were using fifteen in the past tense by Friday. Throughout the week we played a wide variety of Spanish and Latin American music and finished the week off with a quiz on this and the dances we had attempted one evening ~ with instructions in Spanish! During just five days away, we were able to cover the equivalent of a term's work in school. At the end of the week, the group was able to add a piece of descriptive writing to their town plans drawn out and labelled at the beginning of the week.

Outdoor activities in the afternoons offered plenty of fresh air (apart from the caving which just offered plenty of cold water!) and the opportunity to try something new. Most students had never been climbing nor abseiling and found the walk up Winder (a mountain in front of Longrigg) bracing! Qualified instructors accompanied us and willingly joined in with any impromptu Spanish lessons and were a fine example to our students as an example of what you can learn quickly in a foreign language in a realistic situation if you put your mind to it - it's just a matter of motivation!

All this was replicated in German, then French, with the groups that followed us to Longrigg over a period of two weeks. In total, sixty students from Year 8 experienced immersion in a foreign language and culture (not least the wild North of England!).

Thanks go in particular to Jon Day (Head of Languages), Bryan Carr (renowned chef and German speaker), Vanessa Lawrence (German teacher), Silvia Nulle (German Assistant), Julie Lock (Spanish teacher), Mike Hateley (German teacher), John Murray (German teacher), Marianne Guay (French Assistant), and of course to Rob Gregory, Longrigg Head of Centre.

By Mel Scudamore, Languages Teacher
SKI TRIP 2002

After an early start, we finally arrived at Malpenza Airport, ready to hire skis, ski poles and boots. Our first ski lesson was frustrating, but enjoyable. After tiredly walking the ten minutes back to the hotel, we threw off our heavy ski boots and made our way to our rooms, then collapsed onto our beds. Everyone enjoyed skiing. We were all split into three groups according to how well we had done on the first day. There were many falls, such as Steven Allsopp’s amazing domino wipe-out of most of the skiers in his group. However, as the week went on, our skiing did improve. There were also plenty of snow fights. One ‘squabble’ which lasted the entire week, was between Miss Rutherford and Stuart Hardy, who were determined to push each other over, which grew harder as the week went on and their ability to keep their balance grew.

As the week progressed, the higher ability group moved further up the mountain. On the penultimate day, we went to the very top of the mountain after going on a cable car, followed by a chair lift and then a button lift. Perhaps the final collision was inevitable, but Emma Massingham, Mark Hancock and Stuart Hardy, all skiing, full speed, towards the same point, caused the pile up!

All in all, the skiing was an amazing experience for all involved, but it wasn't just a ski holiday! Every evening an activity was planned, including outdoor ice-skating, night skiing, a night out at a pizzeria and a disco. The highlight was the final night when we all went to karaoke. Nightmares were given to many at the sight of Rob Angell and Mark Hancock “rocking” (no offence meant). Kate Bird started the girls off with ‘Summer Nights’. Everyone that went would like to say a big thank you to Amanda Rutherford, Rob Angell, Kate Bird and last but certainly not least, Mark Hancock. Many of us will be seeing you next year. We left England on the 9th of February as strangers; we arrived back on the 16th as lasting friends. We recommend this trip to anyone - it was well worth the money.

By Emma Massingham and Rachel Fell, Year 11
When we reached Berlin on Friday morning, we were very tired from the travelling and early start. However, we put our baggage in a room straight away and then went out to investigate. Our first journey was to the remains of the Berlin Wall. We were amazed at the history of the wall and how many people had risked their lives just to cross the border dividing East and West Germany to see their loved ones.

The main event of our visit was the trip to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp. It was extremely emotive and distressing for all to see this silent and sombre place. The pain that the victims experienced was harrowing and the pictures of the families before their separation was moving. The worst part was the Pathology Hut where experiments were made on the vulnerable and weak prisoners. It was a relief when we finally left the camp. I know I will never forget the experience.

The food was interesting, and we found some relaxing spots to enjoy after a hard day walking. Our so-called ten minute walks usually turned into ninety minutes ~ all were Mr Hately's fault! The hotel was great, and the beds were really comfy!

This trip will never be forgotten, with lots of memories of Sarah walking into a post, Chris falling over on the ice, and Gemma's brilliant German! We made the most of our four days although we all wished that we could have stayed longer. We managed to visit the Reichstag, the Russian war memorial, the Gestapo's headquarters and even the Olympic stadium.

Even though we were really busy, it did not stop us girls from shopping! The journey home was tiring and we all fell asleep, exhausted from our travels. I would love to go back to Germany again soon.

Katie Morgan, Year 12

WOMAN CHARGED WITH DRUG POSSESSION

This report is a fictional account produced following a school trip to Milton Keynes Magistrates Court

In February 2002, at Milton Keynes Magistrates’ Court, Ms Kris Girdler was charged with possession of a Class A drug on the night of the 6th of January 2002. The incident had occurred outside the Purple Frog Nightclub, Newtown. She pleaded ‘not guilty’, and so consented to a trial in the magistrates’ court. The trial began with a cross-examination from the first prosecution and defence lawyers, questioning the prosecution witness, Bo Boyden. Ms Boyden was alleged to have been fighting with Ms Girdler, just before Ms Girdler’s arrest. WPC Charlie Crawford who, along with his colleague WPC Dixon, arrested Ms Girdler, said ‘she was behaving in an agitated and excited manner.’ He then arrested her for disorderly behaviour in a public place. When they reached the police station, she emptied her trouser and jacket pockets, where they found 3 ecstasy tablets. Ms Girdler claimed ‘I don’t know anything about them.’ After further evidence from Mattie Roberts, Mel Peters, and Ms Girdler herself, the magistrates retired to make a decision. After a short amount of time, the magistrates had reached their verdict. Ms Kris Girdler was found not guilty of wilful possession of 3 tablets of ecstasy. No sentence was given, and she was free to leave the courtroom.

By Nicola McClements, Year 8
THE FOOD TRIP

On the 29th November 2001, a group of Year 10 GCSE Food Technology students were whisked away to the magnificent Good Food Show. Despite the dreary weather and the stressful science modular test before we set off, everyone’s spirits were up and the atmosphere on the coach was full of excitement and happiness!

When we arrived at the NEC, after a speedy journey full of entertainment from the drivers, everyone set off to begin their tour of the dazzling arena, jam-packed with excellent barrows and stalls, full of scrumptious tasters, and many low priced items for sale.

Throughout our tour of this exceptional exhibition, there were many freebees, such as a variety of tasters and various leaflets advertising a wide range of kitchen appliances and accessories, and also individuals’ food preferences, such as vegetarian and vegan options.

Later on in the afternoon, we were all taken to watch Gary Rhodes’ splendid live demonstration, from which we were all able to pick up many helpful hints and some wonderful ideas for appetising dishes. Following this spectacular display, we then proceeded to spend any remaining money on more tasty foods and top chef merchandise. The chefs present were Jamie Oliver, Gary Rhodes and Ainsley Harriet. Many of us were lucky enough to actually meet these talented cuisine stars and receive personal autographs.

Sadly, the day came to an end and it was time to leave this excellent exhibition and head home. During the journey, the whole bus joined in with a delightful sing song and enjoyed yet more of the coach driver’s classically bad jokes. We also munched through many of the scrumptious goodies bought.

I would like to end by saying, on behalf of all the students who ventured out to experience The BBC Good Food Show this year, a huge thank you to all staff who organised this enjoyable day.

By Bethan Webster, Year 10

THE CLOTHES SHOW

Those of us who are doing textiles were given the opportunity to attend the Clothes show at the NEC in Birmingham during December 2001. Whilst we were there we had a chance to collect leaflets and information on our chosen subjects, and we also had the hard task of browsing and purchasing some of the many different designs and style of clothing and cosmetic products that were on display throughout the centre!

One of the highlights of the day was a professional fashion show where we were able to see all the different designer names being modelled and we could see the textile industry at work, discovering how fashion is changing with time.

Overall, it was a great day where we got to experience the glamorous side of textiles. We learned lots of interesting facts that would help us with our textiles class and towards our GCSE’s and had lots of fun doing so. We can’t wait until next year!

By Becky Rance and Sarah McMillan, Year 10

ATHLETICS

Athletics season kicked off to a brilliant start in 2001 with eleven students representing Lord Grey in the Milton Keynes District Trials in May:

Junior Girls Track Events
Kelly Longmore (100m), Jemmah Wall (200m), Carly Snow (200m), Sarah Miller (1500m) and Amy Turnball (1500m).

Junior Girls Field Events
Chelsey Hurren (Shot Putt), Rachel Lockheart (Discus) and Chelsey Hurren (Javelin).

Junior Boys Track Events
Steven Higgins (100m), Daniel Thom (800m) and Michael Horan (1500m).

Intermediate Boys Field Events
Daniel Cutting (Long and Triple Jumps).

The day was a great success, and five Lord Grey students went on to the County Athletics Trials: Daniel Cutting, Chelsey Hurren, Rachel Lockheart, Sarah Miller and Jemmah Wall.

By Steff Healy, Head of PE
CLASS OF 2002 ~ YEAR 11

MATTHEW ACLAND, MARTIN AKEHURST, ELIZABETH AKINWANDE, CATHERINE ALLINGTON, MOHAMMED AMIN, CHARLIE ANTONIOU-SAVVA, JODIE ARMSTRONG, STEPHANIE ASHLEY, MARCUS ASHTON, MARC AUSTIN, LEIGH BAILIE, LEE BAINES, LISA BASS, STEPHEN BATCHELER, EMILY-JAYNE BEDIAKO, RUBI BEGUM, KADY BENSON, SAMANTHA BEVAN-BROWN, JENNIFER BIRD, MATTHEW BLACKBURN, PAULBLOW, NATASHA BOWLER, SARAH BRACKETT, RYAN BRODERICK, ELIZABETH BROWN, JOANNA BROWN, DAVID BRUNT, MATTHEW BUCK, JAKE BURTON, JORDAN BYERS, JORDAN CALAPE, MICHAEL CHAPPELL, GEMMA CLARK, JAMES CLARKE, WILLIAM CLARKE, ANGELA COFFILL, RACHAEL COLLETT, DAVID COLLINS, AARON COOK, CHRISTOPHER COOTS, KIRSTY COPPINS, GREGG COPPOCK, HOLLY COWAN, ALISON COWLARD, HAYLEY COZENS, JOHN CRONIN, DANIEL CURTIS, LEE DARCEY, STEPHEN DART, LISA DAVIES, RENEE DAVY, ASHLEY DAY, GILES DEERING, ASHLEY DELL, ABBASALI DHANJI, ANDREW DIMMOCK, NICOLE DOUGLAS-CAPRICE, CLYDE DOWARD, CHRISTOPHER DUNN, SAM EDMARDS, TYLER EGAN, KATY ELSTER, KATHRYN ENTWISTLE, CATHEEEN ERLWANGER, LEWIS ERSER, PAUL EVANS, ELLIOT FABIAN, DAVID FAWKES, RICHARD FLETCHER-POOLE, THOMAS FLOWER, WING FONG, HEATHER FOSKETT, STACEY FOSTER, NATALIE FREWER, ZOE GARNER, LUKE GEEVES, DONNA GLOVER, JENNIFER GOOD, KIRSTY GODDICHILD, MATTHEW GRACE, ADAM GRAY, KAYLEIGH GREEN, CARLEY GRENVILLE, ROBERT GREWAL, ADAM HACKER, PETER HALL, GEMMA HAMILTON, ROBERT HAMILTON, BEN HAMPS, JASON HANSEN, KATHRYN HARDY, RICHARD HART, MICHAEL HARTE, NICOLA HARTLAND, KARA HENDERSON, CHERYL HENRY, KAYLEIGH HERBERT, CHARLOTTE HESLOP, ROBERT HICKERY, LAURA HIGH, STUART HOARE, AMANDA HOLMES, CARL HOPKINSON, SIMON HUNT, JAMES HUTCHINSON, MOHAMED ISLAM, BIANCA JACKSON, DEBORAH JACKSON, MATTHEW JAMES, GARY JENKINS, MATTHEW JENKINS, PETER JOHNSON, MARK JONES, ANDREW KEEN, JAMES KELLY, DOMINIC KEMPSTER, GARY KENNY, MARC KINGHAM, KAREN LABRUM, ABIGAIL LAMB, PAK LAU, DANIEL LEASK, IAN LEATHERS, CLAIRE LEONARD, DAVINA LETT, NICHOLABELIS, SAMUEL LEWIS, DANIEL LILLEY, JAMES LITCHFIELD, DANNY MANNING, JEREMY MARTIN, ROBERT MARTIN, LOUISE MASSINGHAM, VISHAL MASURIA, TASAVAR MAZHUR, JOSHUA MCAADO, STACEY MCCONNELL, DAVID MCLEAN, KAYLEIGH MCELAN, LEWIS MCELAN, STEPHEN MCMANUS, GEMMA MCMEKIN, JOEL MILBURN, SAMANTHA MILLAR, HOLLIE MILLER, RAKHEE MODHWIADA, DANIEL MONGIARDI, RICKY MONGIARDI, PHILIP MONK, VIKKI MORRIS, DONNA MUNNOCH, TONY MURPHY, ALAN NEIGHBOUR, ASHA NICHOLS, LOUISE NORMAN, PAUL NORRIS, VAZ NUNES, SHAUN O'LEYRE, TARANDEEP OBHI, CHRISTOPHER OFFORD, MATTHEW ORDWAY, ANGELA OWEN, ASHLEY PAGE, RYAN PARKES, LEIA-JAYNE PARR, JANE PARRATT, KIM PAULEY, ROBERT PEARCE, MATTHEW PEASNELL, AMIEE PEPARD, EMMA PERRY, CHRISTOPHER PHILLIPS, KATHRYN PHILLIPS, DANIEL PIZEY, MICHELLE POLLARD, STACEY PRICE, JAMIE PRUIN, THOMAS PUNTER, DANIEL QUINN, KELLY RAYFIELD, STUART REYNOLDS, CLAIRE ROWDEN, KEVIN ROWLAND, MEGHAN RUBIN, HAYLEY RUSSELL, ALISON SADLER, BENJAMIN SAMPSON, HAYLEY SAVILL, CHRISTOPHER SHEPHERD, DAVID SHIPP, SARAH SHIRLEY, SEAN SIMMS, DAVID SIMPSON, THOMAS SIMPSON, DAMON SMITH, KAYLEIGH SMITH, MARK SMITH, NATALIE SMITH, GEORGINA SNOOK, RICKY SNOW, NISHIK SOLANKI, GURVINDER SOOOR, BROOKE SPARK, MELISSA SPRUCE, NATALIE STEAR, CHRISTOPHER STEVENS, NICOLE STEWART, SAMANTHA STRATTON, KEITH TALLBOY, ZARATUCKER, KELLY TURNER, JULIE WALKER, GABRIEL WALLACE, ZOE WARNER, MELISSA WATSON, LUKE WEBB, ROSS WEBB, SARAH WEBB, AARON WELLS, ALAN WELLS, JAMES WELLS-GOULD, ROCHELLE WHITE, LAURA WICKHAM, STACY WILDSMITH, SIMEON WILK, JAMES WILLIS, SINDY WONG, BONNIE WOOD and LISA YOUNGER
ART, WAR AND CONFLICT

Art trip to London, February 2002

One Saturday in February, a group of Lord Grey Art students from mixed year groups accompanied Adrian Lee, Alison Irwin, Stephen Patey and Edith Robinson on a trip to London where we visited The Imperial War Museum and The National Gallery. The purpose of this trip was to help us with our war and conflict art project.

The day began relatively early when we took the train to London, meeting up with the teachers at the War Museum late morning. We then looked around the many exhibits, focusing on the current Holocaust Exhibition which exhibited an alarmingly realistic impression of the brutal Nazi discrimination of minority groups during the Second World War. It was extremely moving for us all and it helped us gain a better understanding of the emotional effects of warfare. This helped us to complete our projects realistically and gain a better perspective of the mercilessness of all conflict.

We later took the underground to the National Gallery where we split into groups. Most of us chose to look around the Renaissance section and also artwork by Pablo Picasso, all the while enjoying the running commentary from Adrian Lee. It was extremely interesting to see many of the original paintings we have studied during class.

The day was very interesting and motivating and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who went.

By Jenny Allsopp, Year 10

THINKING OUTSIDE OF THE BOX

During the Spring Term, three girls from Years 11, 12 & 13 experimented with art by working on a large scale. For the students, Meghan Rubin (Year 11), Emma Todd (Year 12) and Wendy Seyner (Year 13), it was the first time they had worked on such a grand scale. The history of art has shown many examples of artists that have worked on a big surface: Pablo Picasso’s famous ‘Guernica’ is 3.5 metres x 8 metres and Michael Angelo’s Sistine Chapel ceiling is monumental. Working on such a large piece of work has many problems attached to it.

Meghan has been working on a ‘Food and Drink’ project. Meghan’s artwork has tried to deal with the issues of eating disorders and has steered away from the traditional ideas of a Food and Drink still life. Meghan’s final piece is mixed media on wood and is 126xm x 188cm big.

Emma is working currently on a life sized sculpture of a dead man sitting in an armchair. The project was about the interaction we have with our environment and Emma’s idea looks at the dead man actually becoming one with the chair over time. Her initial construction is going to be covered in concrete and placed outside. Whilst the concrete is wet she is going to cover the sculpture in grass seeds. This will add a further environmental dimension to her work as the seeds grow.

Wendy has worked on a project based on the theme of exploding composition and narrative. Her final piece is a massive 250cm x 170cm acrylic on wood.

By Adrian Lee, Head of Art Department
WAR AND PROTEST

The project we were given was a contextual study. I chose the theme of ‘War and Protest’ and my final idea followed much research and problem-solving. The main challenge I faced was the successful construction of such a large scale piece of work. My final composition created a powerful message, highlighting the message I was trying to relay, with the dark background emphasising the hands.

The worst thing was the time the piece took to complete, as well as the amount of free-time I had to put into it. The best thing was the impact it has made and the sense of achievement I felt once I finally finished the piece.

I did not expect my work to look as powerful and strong and I didn’t think I was capable of producing such a large picture. Next time I will include more detail and finalise my idea before I start, rather than allowing the piece to evolve after I have started. The project allowed me to learn a lot about techniques of painting and composition and how to create a message through a piece of artwork.

Wendy Seyner, Year 13

BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The theme I was given for the project was the ‘Built Environment’. From there I began looking at Gothic Architecture, in particular churches and gargoyles. This idea then developed into the theme of decay and the idea of people turning into statues and rotting.

I found it slightly problematic because I kept running out of the materials I needed as the piece was so large. I also found it difficult to find enough time to spend on it.

I think my work needed to be large in order for it to look effective and more realistic. The worst thing about working large is that it is very time consuming; the best is that you can be more free as mistakes are easily corrected.

Emma Todd, Year 12

FOOD AND DRINK

I arrived at my final idea from my project theme ‘Food and Drink’. Immediately from this title I thought of eating disorders. I had recently read an article about anorexia and I felt it was a very important issue that needed to be addressed and by working large it would force people to take notice of such an important issue, especially for young people.

The main problem I encountered working large was actually knowing how to fill the board at the very beginning, but as soon as I started the painting I quickly overcame that. Working on a large scale forces people to take notice of your work and conveys the message you are trying to show loud and clear. I also learned that by incorporating writing in a painting, such as song lyrics, can help relay a message in a powerful way.

I loved working large because I was able to work more loosely and freely. I’m not sure if the final piece was any different to what I was anticipating, but I am very pleased with the final product. If I were to do anything different I would have worn an apron!

Meghan Rubin, Year 11
This has been our first full academic year in our new Learning Resources Centre – and what an exciting year it’s been!

During the Autumn term we held our annual book week – ‘Book Blast’ – and the students had the pleasure of meeting three of this country’s leading authors for teenagers: Malcolm Rose, Celia Rees and Yvonne Coppard. In his final year as a school governor, Malcolm delighted all of us with his gruesome tales of forensic science! Yvonne Coppard visited for a second year and gave three wonderful performances, full of humour, illustrating where she gets the ideas for her stories. Our third guest, Celia Rees captured the imagination of her audiences with stories of witches, ghosts and graveyards! Her novel, Witch Child, was one of the most popular books of the year in the LRC! All the authors were captured on video and gave permission for bits to be used on our school website as soon as the new one is launched. We also ran a Scholastic Book Fair over the week, selling enough books to select £260 worth of books to add to our stock.

On March 14th, World Book Day, we had a ‘Poetree’ display in the LRC. Students and staff were invited to write a poem on a paper leaf and these were attached to the branches of our tree! This proved very popular and something of a talking point amongst the students as they tried to spot poems by members of staff.

Over the last eighteen months the Lord Grey Association has worked extremely hard raising money, and were able to achieve their goal of paying off the first instalment of the LRC refurbishment. In addition, they put in a successful bid to the Co-operative Group which enabled us to purchase two new stand-alone computers to run our extensive CD ROM collection. The school, staff and students alike, have much to thank them for as the LRC has been such a resounding success.

We hope to encourage more students to make use of the facilities both before and after school hours. Parents are welcome to visit the LRC, and we would be delighted to assist parents with any concerns they may have about the dreaded homework!

The popularity of the LRC is increasing during lesson-time, with many teachers choosing to bring groups in to use both books and ICT materials for their topic based work. During break and lunchtime we regularly see numbers of 80+ students. The general feeling is that the new LRC is much more pleasant and user-friendly than the old library! In order to help the LRC staff deal with these large numbers of customers, we have started to recruit students to act as LRC monitors. Mrs. Greenough trains and supervises the students, and they are able to assist on the issue desk once she is happy with their progress! We thank our regular team of monitors for their help and support.

Later this term we will be hosting another Book Fair, this time it will be a ‘Buy two, get a third one free’ theme – anything to encourage reading! – and the news flash for next term is that Anthony Horowitz will be one of our guest speakers! He will be well-known to the children as the author of ‘Groosham Grange’ and ‘Stormbreaker’ among others, but parents may have seen his name as the screenwriter for such television programmes as Midsomer Murders and Agatha Christie’s Poirot stories. Parents with children currently in Year 7 may like to encourage them to read some of his books over the summer holidays!

So, we look forward to another busy and exciting year, and we hope to see YOU in the LRC!

By Isabella Coles, Chartered Librarian
ROCKETS

We accepted the challenge of making a rocket and launching it successfully. Using a kit we found in a local model shop, we constructed the rocket and set about arranging a test launch. The first time we launched the rocket, it veered off course and gave us a little bit of a fright as we fell to the floor to get out of the way. After we made some pretty significant changes, we prepared the next craft. This rocket went off just as planned and there were no hitches! The rocket soared off into the heavens and gave all watching an amazing sight to witness and behold. At that point all of the work had paid off and we were certain that the planned public launch would go off just as successfully. Unfortunately nobody’s that lucky.

On the last day of the term we assessed the situation of the weather and deemed it possible to launch the rockets without too many major concerns. We did the setting up and the whole of Year 9 Band A were brought out onto the tennis courts and then the countdown started.

The rocket soared off into the atmosphere and the parachute opened successfully to the roaring applause of the grounded spectators. Then fate hit. The rocket drifted with the wind and flew over the school fence and into the public domain. We saw this as a minor set back and readied the second rocket for launch. The second rocket went off perfectly and also drifted and descended into the confines of Bletchley Park.

We had been given permission to enter Bletchley Park and to search for our lost equipment. We found one of our rockets and would like to thank Kevin Cody, the Science Technician, for taking us. We are now looking into the possibility of making our own rocket from scratch. We also plan to advertise for a new group of members to advance our efforts and to gather more resources within a smaller time frame.

We would like to say thank you to all of the science staff especially Mr. Carr (Head of Science), Mr. Hoggard (Head of Biology) and the technicians for all of the support given to us.

By David Courcoux, Jon Wells and Nick Price, Year 9

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council at Lord Grey was established in September 2000 as a vehicle for giving students a voice in the day to day affairs of the school. However, with the chance to ‘have a say’ also comes responsibility, acting as role models to the student body as a whole, attending regular meetings, discussing key issues and being ready to represent the school.

Membership of the Council is decided by elections. There are four places for each year group and four for the Sixth Form. Elections are held annually and are by secret ballot. So far, nominations have far exceeded the places available so there is always competition to gain a place on the Council.

So far, major discussions have taken place with the School Council on matters as varied as: the purchase and location of new lockers, the curriculum review and shape of the school day, the development of social areas, the upgrading of facilities, clarification of our school dress code and the sponsorship of a letter writing campaign for Amnesty International. This year, we held our inaugural School Council and Senior Staff Conference. No doubt, this forum will help to enhance our democratic workings further.

By Simon Barnes, Chair of School Council
The phrase “Gothic Horror” immediately conjures up images of moonlit castles with crenulated battlements and demonic shrieks ringing out through ominous thunderstorms. However the very word Gothic comes from the noun “Goth” that was used to describe the uncouth, savage Germanic populace who invaded the Roman Empire between the third and fifth century AD. This uncivilized, barbarous public is the basis of Gothicism itself. Robert Louis Stevenson perfectly illustrates this early in Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde when one of his characters, Mr Enfield, describes how he saw Mr Hyde “trample calmly” over a young girl and leave her screaming on the ground. Stevenson describes how the men of this child’s family had to restrain her female relatives who are portrayed as being “wild as Harpies”. The Harpy is a rapacious half bird, half woman character from Greek mythology. This blood lust was born purely out of hatred for Hyde and his “cool black sneering coolness” about the whole episode. It would be naïve to suggest that the Gothicism of this incident was purely born out of Hyde’s comportment (or lack of it), much of the Gothic atmosphere is created in the composition of the scene.

Stevenson states that Mr Enfield was “coming home from some place at the end of the world.” He uses the smog, through which you can see no further than a certain point, and anything being beyond that point is a mystery. “Black winter morning” is used to signify not only the actual darkness of the morning but a sinister, menacing facet of subterfuge; an omen of some devious act to come. This graphic description is only heightened by Stevenson’s depiction of Enfield’s isolation. Due to the aforementioned fog, all Enfield could see would was the faint glow of hundreds of gas lamps: “…Street after street, all lighted up as if for a procession, and all as empty as a church.” Stevenson used many religious references such as this throughout his “fine bogey tale”. This is because, unlike today, almost everyone who would have read Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde book would be devout to a religion. By using religious allusions, people could relate more easily to the unfolding horrors.

By James Kelly, Year 11

SUDDENLY BLIND

Darkness, nothing but darkness. My heart is pounding so hard, I can hear it in my ears like the beating of a huge drum.

Panic! Where am I? I stretch my arms out in front of me in search of a familiar texture or object. I am frightened of where I am stepping. Will there be a step or something to fall over? I feel small and invisible, wobbly and so alone. I am worried that people will bump into me or that I will fall into this imaginary pit. I am breathing hard and my mouth is incredibly dry.

I must try to calm down and work out where I am and which way I can go to get help. The darkness is depressing – it seems to be getting darker every minute. I take a deep breath and now the air feels icily cold.

I shuffle carefully forward, still with my arms out-stretched. My fingertips touch a cold, rough surface. I pull my arms back in surprise. Hesitantly, I replace my hands to try and work out what it is I have touched. This rough surface must be a wall ~ I can feel the shape and pattern of the bricks. I am sweating and so scared. How can I be afraid of something that last week I would have ignored?

By Dayna Rance, Year 8
DANTE’S ODYSSEY

About 2,000 years ago, according to legend, while snow was falling on a clear, freezing night on earth, a fierce devil prince, MUNDAS, was born deep in the darkest pit of the Netherworld. Within a short time he gained his full powers and took over the Devil Throne. His first act as a ruler of all devils was to declare himself Emperor of the Devil Kingdom. His next feat was an invasion of the human world. His plan was to conquer it and rule over both the lower and the upper realms. However, a powerful Devil-Knight known as SPARDA took pity on humans for their brief, transient lives. Leading a human rebellion, he defeated all of the devil’s fellowship and finally imprisoned the Emperor himself in a magic sealed vault.

Having achieved his victory, SPARDA abandoned the Devil Kingdom to live in the human world. He married a human sweetheart, with eyes as blue as the sea and cherry red lips, and he soon fathered a half devil, half human son, DANTE. As SPARDA’s half human, half devil son, DANTE was a specialist in the field of the supernatural, equipped with the same deadly combat skills as his father and with mysterious powers inherited through the inhuman blood in his veins. DANCE was all that protected mankind from demonic conquest and slavery.

As DANCE embarked on his odyssey to rid the world of the evil Emperor, he believed that he was equipped sufficiently for the battle. His sword of power had the very essence and soul of all the thousands of the eternal dead in hell. He was also equipped with his pistols, one in each hand.

As he neared his prey, DANCE encountered his first obstacle: a seemingly normal set of red doors with metallic edging and a magic lock. DANCE had to concentrate all of his devil power to shatter the lock and open the door to reveal a large, dark, spiral staircase in a tower leading to a room. With the darkness outside, very little could be seen. As DANCE glanced ahead, he saw a tall, monstrous figure standing in the corner of the room with something glistening in his hand; a further advance revealed it was a rusty old key. Suddenly, the monster came alive!

Countless more monsters then appeared, looking like Marionettes, puppets born of evil power, the power of MUNDAS. They attacked DANCE, but without even a change of facial expression, he killed them all with a gigantic lunge of his sword, which fatally pierced their dark chests. DANCE then quickly exited to instantly see a statue holding a powerful looking sword. On closer inspection the sword seemed to be surging electricity. All of a sudden, it flew from the statue’s grasp and pierced DANCE through the chest, flinging him onto the cold, hard floor. DANCE, being half devil, survived the attack and pulled out the sword from his chest. The sword seemed to talk directly to his mind. “I am Alastor, the God of Thunder and Lightning. I am here to help you in the form of this sword. Take me on your adventure and we will defeat MUNDAS”.

By Richard Fletcher, Year 11
THE MAKING OF ME
I wish....

The roar of the crowd, the pushing and shoving of people trying to see, the smell of hot dogs and the almighty heat from everyone huddling together. Then a huge rumbling like a roll of thunder reverberated two inches above my head ~ I had to wait, for I could not see what the cheering was about. I waited and waited, then a sensational feeling ran all through my body as I saw the players emerge from the tunnel onto the pitch. A sound escaped from my mouth like I had never made before. The excitement that had welled up inside me burst out like a siren cutting through the crowd until my breath ran out. I was unable to scream anymore. As I sat back, the crowd did not rest their almighty sound. The whistle squealed and I sprang up once again as fast as a bullet from a gun and started to scream. This moment changed my life forever.

This day was Saturday the 26th January and it was the day of Manchester United against Bayern Munich at Old Trafford in the Champion’s League Cup Final and I was there, all the way, never stopping to take a breath. I was with my Dad and his mate, Mark. I will always be grateful to Mark because he got us the tickets for the football match. This also changed my future right there and then!

I am twenty one now, and was six at the time of the match. I still see Mark now and then and he still has no idea how much of a part he played in shaping my career. I am now playing for Manchester United in the First Team. My Dad comes to watch me play in every game and he says “When I sit up in that crowd son, watching you play, so much emotion flows through me that proud tears appear in my eyes”.

By Sam Lewis, Year 11

ENGLAND SONNET

England is a small country with big hearts
We have sausage sarnies and fish n chips!
Just like a jigsaw it has lots of parts,
Thoughts, feelings and dreams set sail like a ship.

We are a nation of chocolate lovers
Football, rugby, sports are special to us.
In time of crisis we band as brothers
Rumble, rumble is the sound of a bus.

Busy streets, traffic jams, hardly any room,
A small island, a dot on the big earth.
Loud music, hardcore rock, hear it go: BOOM!
On this world we don’t all come last, but first.

Gliding like an eagle, never stop or stall
United we stand, divided we fall.

By Matthew Norris, Year 8

By Joanne Larrett, Year 9
THE WATCHER

I am the iniquitous beast, the thing you fear in the dark, the cruel Emperor of this Kingdom which has been invaded and tormented by my next victims. I will take each one and tear them until they are naked of their minds, bodies and souls. I will lace them together and they will join me in my quest.

For decades I have been surging. With every step I took, each breath I took, there was still the need which burnt my insides out. I was ready to scream, scream with torment for never finding that one sweet, evil slave.

There is one boy who can destroy my plans. He has already attempted to kill fear. He tells my victims that I am no more than a thought, a rumour. I only exist if they feed me. The boy is the one who knows that I am a lie. A lie which will grow and expand until I can smother them. I will take this one boy with my pure evil, and change him and make his blood boil. He will obey me. I know this day will come. It is just a matter of time, just waiting.

There is another boy that swept my interest from the evil one. Just to hear his name makes me quake with fear. This boy, with his confused mind, has a taste for blood. He knows that the red oozing juice can only give pleasure to you if you enjoy the fiery pain which shoots around your body. This boy will not have his influence changed, he will stick by his own raging passion. Ever since the dark dead night months ago, he has enjoyed this power.

Still there is no rest in my raging heart and I must take each boy and feed from him. I will feed from their brains and this sacred feast will nourish me and allow me to burn more and more until my spirit grows hungry again.

Their screams will echo like other tormented slaves in this black kingdom. The victims do not know if I am a lie or the real thing, but I will prey on them until they say I am real. I will whisper for all time to come.

I am the one they need. I am the one they fear!

By Stuart Hoare, Year 11

GRAVEYARD TERRORS

Thunder, lightning, heavier rain.
People screaming, crying in pain.
Echoey winds, deep bells ring.
Someone’s coming. What is that thing?
Getting frightened, getting faster.
Feet tapping, people’s laughter.

Strangled people, clinging tightly.
There it is again. It comes nightly.
The storm and rain starts again.
How do I move? This is insane.
Where’s my life? How do I live?
How do I get through it? What do I give?

By Melissa Rowley, Year 8
WHAT A LIFE!

My horse was the colour of the sky on a bright summer’s day. The wind whistled past my ear. The ground I stood upon was a carpet of differently coloured flowers: red, blue, green, yellow, purple. The trees were as tall as skyscrapers, their leaves reflecting the sun, making wonderful shadows upon the flowers. The smell of spring was in the air, filling me with hope and expectation. I could fly, high above the trees, looking down upon my wonderland.

The river was so clear you could see the fish, coloured like a rainbow, the pebbles, gold and silver, so bright. The sound of the river turned into a magnificent waterfall which rushed into my ears, crashing like ocean waves. Tiger cubs were playing in the pool at the bottom and on the other side rabbits scampered free in the long grass and clover.

My wings were as big as a car, white with silver feathers; my hair as long as a horse’s tail, purple with silver, shimmering in the bright sunlight. A swan flew past, its silky wings soft on my finger tips. The sound of singing birds carried on the slight breeze that kissed my skin.

I landed upon my trusted steed, galloping across the beach. Sand as white as snow, the sea as clear as glass, reflecting the shimmer of the golden sun and twinkling like a star. Oh what a wonderful feeling! I felt safe, free, able to run with no boundaries.

By Natasha Bowler, Year 11

A STORY OF SLAVERY: MY ESCAPE

My Plan
While washing clothes for my owner, Mr Underhill, I will climb up the laundry chute to the hall and run out of the front door. Once out, I will run through the forest to the gas station where my friend Harriet will take some others and me to the underground railroad. She says it’s great, lots of others, no owners and most importantly, freedom at last.

My Actions
I washed all the laundry and checked nobody was around, the coast was clear. I climbed as fast as I could to the top of the chute. I stopped because I could hear voices above and below. Trapped. Below my boss, above the maid about to put some washing down the chute. I prayed to God because I was sure I was going to fall, but the maid heard a cry for help, dropped the laundry and ran. Now was my chance to run. I jumped out of the chute and looked around. I had never been in the hall and witnessed its beauty, but then remembered that I had no time to stand and stare. I found the door and opened it. A refreshing cool breeze hit me in the face and I could smell freedom.

Outside at last and free, I forgot the door and it slammed with a mighty noise. I could hear raised voices behind me. I ran scared through the forest. My feet started to bleed from sharp objects on the floor but still I kept running. I could hear them catching up with me, and my body started to ache. Still I ran, one thought on my mind, freedom. I could hear them getting closer. Louder and louder, the steps came within a few foot of my body. They found me and one man hit me on the head with a club.

My Punishment
I woke up on a bed of straw, bruised and battered. Then suddenly it hit me, immense pain yet no feeling. I looked at the source, my leg. The shock was horrible, my foot gone and in its place a stump. The pain was so overwhelming, I was crying. I never did escape the house. I often thought of it and Harriet was willing, but what chance do I have now with only one foot? Maybe someday...maybe.

By Matthew Wixted, Year 9
THE SLAVE STORY

“Lot number twenty three, this fine young lady is a good cook and small enough to fit up chimneys. Shall we start the bidding at five pounds? Yes five pounds to the woman at the back, ten pounds to the old lady, do I hear fifteen pounds? No? No bidders, no more bids...sold!”

I was next to be sold. The sailor opened the cage and pulled me out. The auctioneer began to cry out. “Lot number twenty four, a strapping man who would be great at physical labour and is quite bright as well. Shall we start the bidding at ten pounds? Ten pounds to the fat man, any higher than ten pounds, yes twenty pounds to the farmer. Any higher? No? Going once, going twice....sold to the farmer!” The sailor and another man grabbed me and threw me into the back of a farm carriage. Other than being in the dark, I do not really remember the journey.

The carriage door opened and I was pulled out. The strange man took me into his house and introduced me to his family. They did not seem that bad, but that was before he gave me a shovel and threatened to beat me. I was not sure what to do but later that evening, Farmer Pete came into the barn holding a plank of wood. He raised his arm, I heard a clunk. The next thing I knew it was late at night. I had to escape, but how? The plank of wood gave me an idea. I got the shovel and began to smash up the wall of the barn. I collected up the shards of wood and put them into the dung bag. I hoisted up onto a horse, Brownie, and galloped up to a beach that was not far from the farm. There was a small cave embedded into the cliff and it was a perfect place to hide the wood. Once all of the wood was built into a raft and hidden I got back on by stead and rode back to the farm.

Just as I was about to go back into the barn, the Farmer’s wife, Margaret, came out of the house and walked over. Before I could move she said, “Do not worry, I want to help you break free, but you will need food and protection and I know just where to get it.”

The next day Margaret made up some excuse that she was taking me to be beaten. Where she actually took me was to town. We went into a shop called “Rick’s Groceries”. This is obviously where I was getting the food, but what about the protection? Margaret paid for all of the food and for some reason said, “potato”. After saying this, the grocer took us into the back room. He opened a crate and inside was a load of black tube type objects. Margaret replied, “Just a regular rifle that can kill in one shot.” I had no idea what they were talking about but Margaret bought one.

Tonight was the big night of my escape. I packed up the supplies and set off on Brownie. Just as I was about to leave the farm, Farmer Pete came bursting out of the house with his own black tubular object. He shouted for me to stop but I carried on riding. Suddenly a burst of thunder came out of the black tube and sent Brownie to the floor with me on it. Brownie had been killed. I would never get away now. I had to stand my ground and fight back. My only hope was my own black tube type object. I yanked it out of my bag and aimed it at Farmer Pete, but I was not sure how to use it. On the bottom was a lever, I pulled it and out came a burst of thunder. Farmer Pete fell to the floor. He was not moving. He was dead.

I ran to the beach and set afloat the raft. I did not know and did not care where I was going, as long as it was better than where I was before. After two days of sailing, I reached land. I asked where I was to the first person I saw. He replied, “Do not worry young man, you are in the North of America. You won’t be treated as a slave here.”

By Kane Burton, Year 9
Spectres and Superstitions in Salem

From June through to September of 1692, nineteen men and women were hanged at Gallows Hill near Salem Village, Massachusetts. The reason? Witchcraft.

A Long Story
During the cold, harsh winter of February that year, a young Betty Parris, daughter of Samuel Parris, the village minister, became strangely ill. Her companions, Ann Putnam, Mary Lewis, and Mary Walcott, also began to exhibit similar behavior. Dr. William Griggs diagnosed these girls of having problems coming from a supernatural origin. The widespread belief that witches targeted children made the doctor's diagnosis seem very likely.

A young West African native slave of Samuel Parris, Tituba, was one of those witches' accused of witchcraft along with Sarah Good and Sarah Osborn. Cross-examinations of the three witches were held on March 1st. Tituba confessed to being a witch but accused both Sarah Good and Sarah Osborn of being witches along with other people she saw flying on poles. Tituba ended up escaping execution but the other two accused were sent to prison.

Deliverance Hobbs was the second witch to confess, admitting to pinching three of the girls at the Devil's command and flying on a pole to a Witch's Sabbath.

The New Court
So many witches were convicted that the jails all over Salem had started to reach capacity. Governor Phips, who had recently returned from England, decided to do something about it. He created a new court in which to hear the witchcraft cases. Five judges, including three close friends of Cotton Mather, an author who had recently written a book on witchcraft, were appointed to the court. A group of witch hunters, William Shapton, was appointed Chief Justice, as he was a reliable man. Ministers were looked to for guidance by the judges, who were generally without legal training, on matters pertaining to witchcraft. The judges decided to allow the so-called "touching test" and examination of the bodies of the accused for evidence of "witches' marks." Evidence that would be excluded from modern courtroom-hearings, gory, stories, unsupported accusations, self-accusers were also generally admitted. Defendants were also allowed to speak for themselves, produce evidence and cross-examine their accusers. They were the equivalent of their own lawyers like we have in modern society today.

More Witches
The first accused witch to be brought to trial was Bridget Bishop on June 2nd. The minister testified that he saw Miss Bishop's image standing on eggs and then metamorphosing into a cat. Deliverance Hobbs and Mary Warren, both confessed witches, testified that Bishop was one of them. Many other accusations were made at her and on June 10th, Miss Bishop was taken to Gallows Hill and hanged. There were many other witches that were hanged that summer. In that summer, Rebecca Nurse was accused of being four other witches Sarah Good, Susannah Martin, Elizabeth Howe, and Sarah White, who were all executed on July 19th.

A man named John Proctor was accused of witchcraft by Elizabeth Bath, who testified that ghosts had come to her and told her of proctor's dealings. Proctor fought back, accusing confessed witches of lying and complaining of torture. His efforts were in vain and he was hanged. His wife, Elizabeth, was also convicted of witchcraft but was spared execution because of her pregnancy.

The End of the Witch-hunt
By the time this witch-hunt ended, at the beginning of September 1692, nineteen convicted witches were executed, at least four accused witches had died in prison, and one, Giles Conay (a convicted witch who refused to stand for trial), had been pressed to death. About one to two hundred people were arrested and imprisoned on witchcraft charges. Two dogs were executed as suspected accomplices of witchcraft.

But why had there been so many executions? And why did it all occur in Salem? Nobody has an answer to either of these, but let us learn from the incredible hysteria that swept through Salem Village in 1692.
The buzzer penetrated my skull, reverberating through my semiconscious thoughts. It was the voice that brought me to my senses, I wish it hadn’t. Sleep is my one escape, my one way of burying what I have done. Sleep that night remained as lost as the souls who have evoked my insomnia. As I opened my eyes I hoped… No, I wished, to find myself in bed, next to my wife. No such luck. I grimaced as my new home revealed itself to me. I stared straight ahead, my nose no further than a foot away from the featureless wall. The bland concrete colour was nearly as painful as the distant buzzer echoing through my mind. A numbing pain rocketed across my head as I remembered why I was here.

I turned over trying to ignore the monotonous voice reminding me of actions. The blankets scraped my face as I rolled as far as I could from the tannoy as it launched its sonic assault at me. I pulled the abrasive blankets tighter, when I noticed the discomfort of my bunk. It’s ironic how my only chance of inner peace, repels me so.

The disembodied voice that awoke me continued. However much it bothered me, it remained distant and muffled. I begrudgingly started to pull myself up when as suddenly as it started, the wakeup call ceased. Before I even had time to comprehend it, my head had hit the pillow once again. The room span around in my panic stricken mind, the colours of grey blended into one. I was knocked to my sense by the nauseating thought that I had brought this punishment upon myself.

I squeezed my eyes tight and thought of my children. This home comfort started to nurse me back to my only refuge. I felt at ease when in a flash my children were no more. Sitting upright with a jolt I looked up to see the flickering phosphorescent light above my head. Each explosion of light burnt further into my psyche. Equally as alarming, a knocking from door disturbed me.

“Sir, Sir, You’re needed,” a familiar voice called. I forced my head into the pillow as if trying to smother away my responsibilities. “I said…”

“Get out.” My voice was hoarse.

“But sir, they’ve…”

“Did you not hear me?” I said low and aggressively. I felt guilty, Jonah had been my most loyal aide and friend since I started out in this game.

By James Kelly, Year 11

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**EXCERPT FROM “THE FOOL WHO PRESSED THE BUTTON”**

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**By Maria Britton, Year 10**

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**By Jody Brittain, Year 9**

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**PANDA**

- **Imagery:** Use the digestive system of a carnivore (more meat), but they can process plant material.
- **Primary food:** The bamboo plant, but they can be fed other plants and certain types of fruit.
- **Females:** Gestation period of 16 to 18 weeks, and they can live up to 15 years in captivity.
- **Behavior:** They can be playful and can become quite vocal.

By Jody Brittain, Year 9
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

The sun was beating down hard on Nashville, Tennessee. The windscreen of Deecan’s 62 Cadillac magnified the glare of the sun to an almost magnesium white light. Even though the light was hurting his eyes, he didn’t care. It was going to be a great day. He could feel it. It didn’t even matter to him if he made it to work on time today, in fact he didn’t even mind if he made it into work at all.

He slowed to a halt. In the midst of all his wonderment for the world around him, he had taken a wrong turn. Beachers Street the sign read. Beachers Street he thought. He was certain he had never seen or even heard of this street before, and he knew this town like the back of his hand.

He got out of his car to take a closer look.

“Christ this place is a dump,” he mumbled quietly to himself under his breath, making sure he could not be overheard. (Just in case he got shot or something). He turned around. He could see a wall, around 6 feet high and 10 feet wide, in the distance. It was smothered in illegible graffiti.

“Those kids,” he said, and got back into his car.

After he had eventually found his way into work, his day went fine. He stopped to deal with some business on the way home and didn’t arrive back at his house until 10.30pm.

As soon as he entered his house, he knew he was ready to turn in for the night. He lay himself down next to the empty space which occupied the left side of his bed. It took him around ten minutes to switch off and before he knew it, he was dreaming. He dreamed of Beachers Street. He dreamed that he was approaching the wall, and even though for some reason this terrified him, he could not stop himself, the force was too strong.

There was a loud scream. He awoke, breathing heavily. It was his son, Eric.

“Dad!” he screamed, “Dad look at your arm, Dad look”.

Deecan looked at his arm. A knife had somehow been plunged into what must have been at least 3 inches of his arm. This was too much for him and he blacked out. When he awoke later, he found his son crying at his bedside. He was in hospital.

“Dad, you said you hated me and you want me to die, oh Dad you didn’t mean that did you?”

“I didn’t say that at all Eric.”

“You said it whilst you were dreaming”.

By Kevin Rowland, Year 11

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THE WORST CLASS IN THE WORLD

Friday in the Classroom,
What’s the fuss about,
Mrs Breach is going on,
Then she starts to shout.

“Carly, please be quiet,”
“Jack sit up straight.”
“Knock Knock” on the door.
Jenny comes in late!

Dayna starts to whisper,
Alex starts to shout.
Tony’s been naughty.
What’s the fuss about?

Mrs Breach has lost her voice,
Jessica’s writing away.
Glen and Dan are arguing.
Let’s keep their war at bay.

Marcus is daydreaming,
about his pencil case.
While Jason’s eating chocolate,
and has a dirty face.

Rudy’s brushing her hair.
Claire’s about to swear,
Sarenjeet’s being silly.
This classroom’s rather chilly.

Mrs Breach likes us really!

By Hannah Rumney, Year 8
CYCLE TIME TRIALLING

Cycle time-trialling may not be the most exciting spectator sport in the world, but the activity does seem to captivate those who have ever tried it. It entails racing at as near maximum as possible, alone and unassisted, over a measured course against the clock. Riders start at minute intervals, competing with themselves as well as the opposition, over distances usually of 10, 25, 50 or 100 miles. Simple. Fastest wins.

The North Bucks Road Club is a racing cycling outfit whose clubhouse is adjacent to the Open University at Kents Hill. It has about fifty active members aged between seventeen and seventy. Most years we offer a "come and try it" time trial. Leigh Smith, a Lord Grey student from 1995 to 1999, decided to do just that when he back in Year 11 at Lord Grey. Two years on, Leigh, now one of the keenest club mates, has become one of the hardest men to beat in the South of England.


By Michael Love, English Teacher
SIXTH FORM BALL
The Hilton National Hotel, 4th July 2002