



July 2016

Cirencester Kingshill School

A brief look inside... Farewell to Year 11 – pgs 2 & 3 / Activities Day – pgs 4 & 5 / Primary at Kingshill – pgs 8 & 9



Kingshill in Space

On Wednesday 8th June 2016 a lucky few of Kingshill's Year 8 and 10 pupils and the world's media took part in an in-flight call with the European Space Agency's first British astronaut, Tim Peake.

The news conference took place inside the Space Dome at The Times Cheltenham Science Festival and was Tim's final press

conference before his return to Earth on Saturday 18th June 2016. Pictured above Kingshill pupils pictured in the Space Dome at The Times Cheltenham Science Festival during the in-flight call with Tim Peake.

For further information and photographs please see page 6.





THE HEAD writes...

Dear Parents

It has been another exciting year at Kingshill with many visits and activities taking place. The year has ended on a high with the Year 7 residential visit to Whitemoor Lakes and the Year 8, 9 and 10 visits to Drayton Manor, Thorpe Park and Alton Towers. Pupils and staff on all of these visits thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The visits are fun days to reward the pupils for the hard work they have put into their studies during the year. The behaviour and enthusiasm of Kingshill pupils has again been very good this year.

We are expecting very good GCSE results again this year. Our Year 11 pupils have worked hard and deserve to do well.

I would like to thank you as parents for supporting both your child and the school.

We would like to express our congratulations to Miss Moss who will be getting married over the summer holidays. She will become Mrs Hussey from September 2016.

At the end of the term we say goodbye to a number of staff.

Miss McSparron, Art Teacher and Miss Thomas, Textiles Teacher will be leaving after completing temporary contracts. Miss McSparron is moving to Commonweal School, Swindon and Miss Thomas is moving to Welcombe Hills School, Stratford-upon-Avon. Mr Bruce, English Teacher has been at Kingshill for a year and is moving to Farmor's School, Fairford. Miss Henderson, Mathematics Teacher has been at Kingshill for two years and is moving to Lady Margaret School, London. Miss Edwards, Science Teacher has been at Kingshill for five years and is moving to Dean Close School, Cheltenham. I would like to thank the above staff for the time and effort they have given to Kingshill School and wish them good luck in their future careers.

Mr Cotterell, Teaching Assistant is retiring after an amazing thirty two years at Kingshill. He has also been a Physical Education Teacher, Head of Boys' Physical Education and Inclusion Manager at Kingshill and has seen the school go through many, many changes. Thank you to Mr Cotterell for all of his hard work and commitment to Kingshill and we all wish him a long and happy retirement.

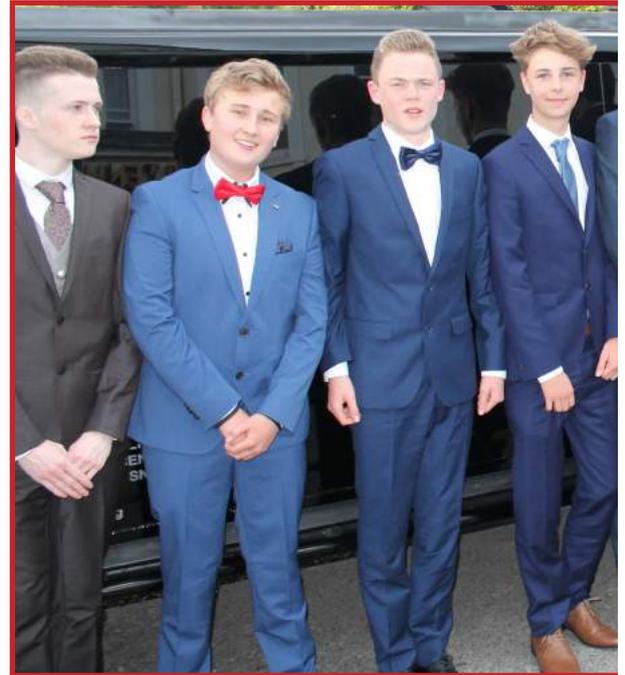
Ms Thomas, English Teacher and Miss Beeley, Religious Education Teacher are taking maternity leave. We wish them well on the births of their babies and look forward to them returning to Kingshill School.

Please feel reassured that we are fully staffed for September. Details of the new staff will be sent to you in the Autumn newsletter.

I would like to wish you and your families a happy summer holiday and look forward to welcoming the pupils back in September. The pupil term starts on Friday 2nd September 2016.

Miss Christine S. Oates, Headteacher

Farewell to



Calling all Kingshill Alumni

Are you an Alumni of Cirencester Kingshill School? Would you be willing to tell us what you have achieved since leaving? This is a good way for our adults of the future to find out what might be ahead of them.

If you are interested to find out more or come and visit our pupils to talk to them about your career since leaving Kingshill, then please get in touch via our email address alumni@cirencesterkingshill.gloucs.sch.uk

We look forward to seeing a few familiar faces!



Year 11



Parents Evening Feedback

Thank you to all those parents who replied to our questionnaire on Parents' Evenings. Your feedback was highly valued and has provided us with some useful reflection points.

Many of you commented on how effectively our reporting cycle fits into the scheduling of Parents' Evenings and appreciated how the evenings run but we have also acknowledged that some common issues have emerged.

From the start of the 2016-17 academic year, all Parents' Evenings

appointments will be made via the online booking process which was trialled with some year groups this year. This should help to address the issues raised by some of you who felt that you weren't always able to see the teachers you wanted to.

To access the booking process and to receive other useful information regarding the school please sign up to our Parentmail PMX service. A step by step guide on how to register can be found on our school website, www.cirencesterkingshill.gloucs.sch.uk.

We are also aware of the difficulties that can sometimes emerge when appointments over-run and will be asking that for teachers and parents

alike, we all do our best to stick to the 5 minute appointment times! Many of you expressed a wish to have a simple 'notes sheet' available on the signing-in desk so that you can record key points that are discussed during your conversations with staff and these will be provided for optional collection for all Parents' Evenings next year.

Lastly, we are keen to extend the opportunity for you to continue to let us know of your views so there will also be a feedback sheet for you to complete after each Parents' Evening if you wish.

Mr J. Morland, Senior Assistant Head/Head of Key Stage 4



Kingshill School felt a very different place on Wednesday 29th June 2016, with coaches departing and arriving to the adventures of Whitemoor Lakes, Drayton Manor, Thorpe Park and Alton Towers.

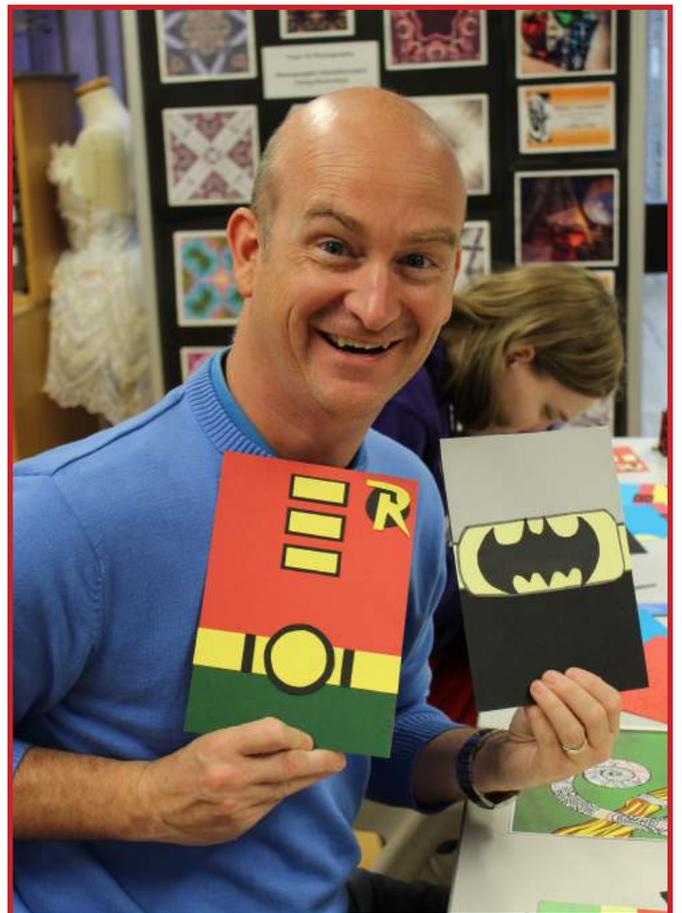
Whilst many wanted the thrills and spills of these locations, others preferred the relative calm of staying in school and in spite of the rain of the British summer, threw themselves into a diverse range of activities including Tae-Kwon Du, an army assault course, cup-cake baking, console and board gaming, crafting as well as various sports!

A special mention must go to the generosity of those who volunteered their services to help run a primary schools 'Kwik Cricket' competition and to those who spent the day building the staging for the forthcoming school production of 'Into the Woods'. Their support and endeavour was highly valued and much appreciated.

Pupils showed a great enthusiasm for the day and in their reflections, many commented on how enjoyable it was to find new friends from other year groups and to try their hand at activities that in many cases were completely new to them. In the words of one Year 8 pupil, 'I've learnt new skills and made new friends. It's been a great day!'

Thank you to all staff involved in running the multitude of trips and activities that took place on the day and to all the pupils who left their comfort zones and threw themselves into new challenges so willingly, with barely a grumble about the rain!

by Mr J. Morland, Senior Assistant Head/Head of Key Stage 4







■ Pupils gathered in the school gym to watch the live Press Conference

Kingshill in Space Continued...

On Wednesday 8th June 2016 a lucky few of Year 8 and 10 pupils visited the Cheltenham Science Festival.

To start the day we listened to 3 amazing scientists telling us about their careers and experiences. We learnt all about Science and its many different aspects including how we can use robots and even how Antarctica can be linked to space! On top of this, we had a once in a lifetime chance to see a real space suit presented by Dallas Campbell.

After a quick lunch break (and some delicious ice cream) we carried on with our incredible day. We visited many interesting Science stalls, each one displaying and engaging pupils with different areas of Science. One of our favourites was an engineer model that we had to help build.

The best part of the day had

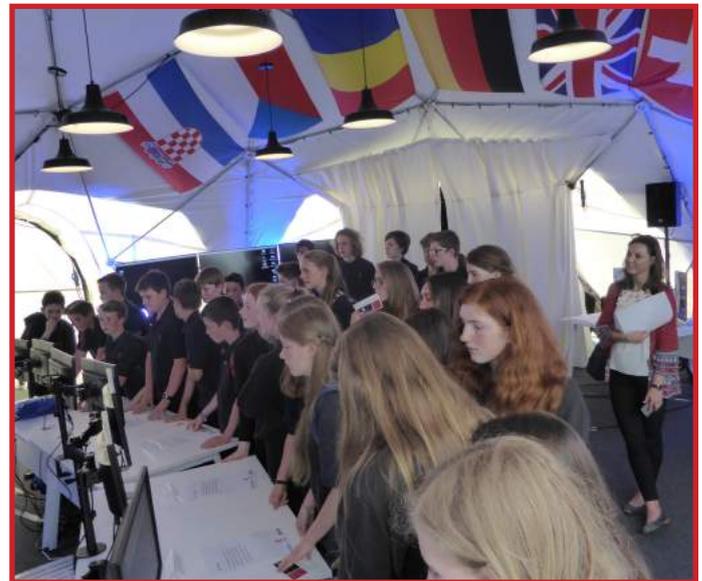
to be talking to Tim Peake in space! We were privileged to be the only school involved with Tim's final press conference before coming home to Earth. We listened to all of the questions asked by the press and four of our pupils, Hannah Slack 10D, Maisie Tweed 8A, Roxy Lewington 8C and John Phillips 8E even had the opportunity to ask Tim a question.

It really was the most amazing experience and something that we will remember forever. We thoroughly enjoyed our day at The Cheltenham Science Festival and only wish that we could do it all over again!

Maisie Cooper 10F & Keely Simmonds 10D



■ Hannah Slack 10D pictured with the events host, Dallas Campbell





Joe Craig visit

On Friday 17th June 2016 Year 8 pupils had the opportunity to listen to a talk by the best-selling author, Joe Craig.

The talk was inspiring and packed with a huge amount of plot twists that kept everyone in suspense. In the afternoon, a lucky few pupils

from across all Year 8 English classes were nominated to attend and take part in a writer's workshop with Joe. He shared some fantastic techniques with the group as they discussed the art of writing a great novel. Perhaps Joe may have inspired a future best-selling author amongst the Year 8 pupils.

Miss R. Bradford, English Teacher

Friends of Kingshill School (PTA)

We want to thank everyone for continuing to support our fund raising efforts. Once again, we have raised nearly £2,000 so far this year, from a number of events such as the Easter raffle and Easter bingo, Carousel and Christmas concerts, Open Mic night, 'Into the Woods' and second hand uniform sales.

Urgent plea for Second Hand Uniform!

We continue to raise funds for the Friends of Kingshill School by selling second hand uniform. We would kindly ask for any donations from Year 11 or the current Year 10 pupils. You can either drop it off at the school reception or to 'Second Chance' in Cricklade Street.

Get Involved!

We are currently looking to recruit a Treasurer and Secretary on the committee. If you are interested, please contact us to find out more about the role.

If you would like to receive a copy of the meeting minutes

each term, please let us know and we will add you to the distribution list.

Look out for our letters via Parentmail PMX which will provide more information regarding forthcoming events taking place next term, September 2016, and during the new academic year.

No matter how much time you can offer, we appreciate and welcome all help! If you have any ideas for fundraising or can assist with any upcoming events, feel free to contact us via our e-mail at: fsk@cirencesterkingshill.gloucs.sch.uk

Friends of Kingshill School (FKS)



CKS Event

On Thursday 23rd June 2016 Kingshill welcomed five Year 4 pupils from Ann Edwards Primary School, Cirencester Primary School, Sapperton Primary School and Watermoor Primary School. The pupils had an exciting afternoon discovering something that was out of this world! The pupils investigated a crime scene in Science, learnt German in Languages and understood about healthy eating in Food & Nutrition.



Explorer Dome - Year 6 and 7 pupils explored and discovered outer space in the Explorer Dome on Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th June 2016.





Read all about 'Into the Woods'



On Thursday 30th June 2016, Year 2 pupils from Watermoor Primary School were invited in to meet some of our 'Into The Woods' production cast. The cast firstly performed the fantastic opening song from the musical and the Year 2 pupils then interviewed Little Red Riding Hood, The Witch, The Wolf, The Baker, Jack, Rapunzel and Cinderella. They were then taken to the library where they turned their notes into wonderful newspapers which reported on the different reasons the characters were going on their journey through the woods. Lots of fun was had and we are excited to see Watermoor when they watch the production too!

Miss R. Bradford, English Teacher



Thank you Toomers!

Kingshill would like to thank John Toomers Cirencester and in particular Wendy Day for their generous gift in donating a whole heap of pond equipment to the school! Our recently appointed ECO Committee have been hard at work alongside our site team in upgrading the pond with the new equipment.



News from Expressive Arts...



Splendid Theatre Company Workshop

On Friday 10th June 2016 sixty GCSE Drama pupils took part in a three hour workshop with 'Splendid Theatre Company'. 'Splendid' are a renowned theatre troupe who specialize in physical theatre techniques and devising original work often from classic texts.

This was an ideal opportunity for the Year 10 pupils as they are starting to create their first, original devised piece. It has also allowed the Year 9 pupils a fantastic start in their GCSEs.

The workshops were spent working on an actor's physicality, developing trust, playing with ideas and looking at Brechtian acting styles.

The workshop leader from 'Splendid Theatre Company' commented on the pupils' positive attitudes and generosity towards one another. I know that the pupils gained a lot of experience and we hope to work with 'Splendid' again. What a fantastic experience!

Ms E. Stones, Head of Expressive Arts

Open Mic Night

Kingshill's first Open Mic Night on Thursday 26th May 2016 was an outstanding success, organised by a group of Year 9 and 10 pupils.

In aid of the NSPCC, pupils took to the stage to perform solo's, group and band pieces. The variety of styles and genres performed was excellent, as was the standard of the performances. What was particularly pleasing is that it gave an opportunity for the less 'well known' performers to show what they can do, especially in Year 7.

It was fantastic to have a NSPCC representative at the concert to further promote their work as the schools' charity this year. We raised around £200 which will contribute to the cheque the NSPCC will receive once the Charity Fair has taken place in July.

The event will run again next year and I hope for even more pupils wanting to show case their skills.

Mr J. Driver, Head of Music

Ukulele Band rock the Cirencester Family Fringe Day



On Saturday 25th June 2016 the Cirencester Family Fringe Day was opened by Kingshill's Ukulele Band.

This was a fantastic opportunity and the band played superbly. Due to a number of other commitments taking place the group was somewhat depleted as we normally have up to 45 attend a rehearsal on Tuesday mornings.

As it happens the stage was tiny, so the 10-12 pupils we did have, was perfect. Thankfully as well, we missed the terrible weather that took place both before and after our performance slot!

A huge thank you to John Parker (Peripatetic Teacher) for asking us to perform and also for the hamper of goodies we received afterwards.

Mr J. Driver, Head of Music





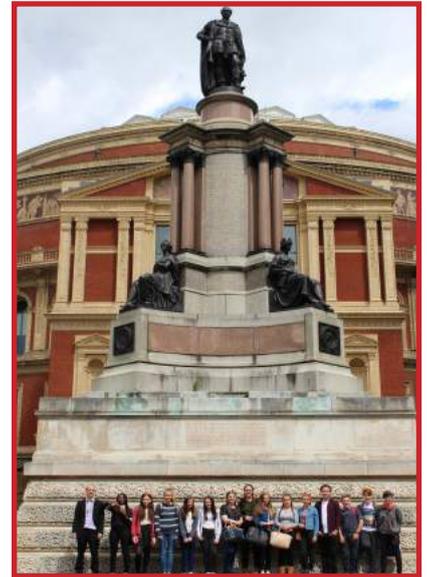
Royal Albert Hall Visit

On Friday 24th June 2016 a group of Year 9 and 10 pupils visited London to experience a professional live orchestra perform in the UK's premier concert hall, the Royal Albert Hall.

The pupils were also lucky enough to be given a tour of this historic venue; seeing the gallery's and restricted areas such as the Queen's Royal Box and private rooms.

The orchestra was fantastic performing works by Strauss, Adams and Holst's 'The Planets'. The orchestra did a stunning job on the day and the music was brought to life with some great cinematography.

Mr J. Driver, Head of Music



News from the Chair of Governors

by Mr A. Johnson, Chair of Governors

In Terms 5 and 6 Link Governors meet Heads of Faculty and the Heads of Pastoral to discuss the progress made through the year. Some also attend Faculty meetings to meet the staff of the faculties to which they are linked.

The following meetings have taken place (the Headteacher attends all Governors' meetings):

- Full Governing Body – Thursday 7th July 2016 .
- Curriculum and Pastoral Committee – Wednesday 22nd June 2016
- Buildings, Health and Safety Committee – Thursday 9th June 2016
- Finance Committee – Thursday 30th June 2016
- Staffing Committee – Friday 17th June 2016
- Chairs' Committee – Thursday 16th June 2016

Buildings, Health and Safety Committee

The Committee oversees all matters relating to Health and Safety (pupils and staff) and reviews the condition of the school's buildings and grounds. Maintenance schedules for the summer holidays were considered.

Staffing Committee

The Committee received an update from the Headteacher on staffing changes.

Curriculum and Pastoral Committee

The Committee is advised by members of the Senior Leadership Team and discussed:

- The use of Pupil Premium money and its effectiveness in supporting eligible pupils.
- The objectives for the School Development plan for 2016/17.
- The reports received from Link Governors.

Finance Committee

The Committee receives a monthly report on the school's expenditure versus budget and considers any other matters affecting the school's finances.



Design & Technology GCSE Projects and Coursework

The Design and Technology Faculty would like to say a big well done to the Year 11 pupils who have finished their GCSEs. The Year 11 pupils have worked incredibly hard and have produced some incredible products in Textiles, Graphics, Resistant Materials and BTEC Art and Design. These products ranged from dresses, pop up children's story books, lights, treasure chest, wine bottle racks to dog kennels!

In Catering, Year 11 pupils made some delicious dishes as part of their Catering GCSE Task 1. Pupils worked with

dedication, enthusiasm and succeeded in creating, planning and making dishes to a high standard as well as meeting requirements of health, safety and hygiene.

Well done again to the Year 11 pupils you have done yourselves proud and set a high standard for the Year 10 pupils to aspire to. To all those Year 10 pupils taking a GCSE in Design and Technology, you are just as talented and we are looking forward to what you can make next year!

The Design and Technology Faculty



Sport News

The Road to Rio

On Tuesday 21st June 2016 international professional tennis player Jade Windely joined the Physical Education and English Faculties for a Rio Olympic Games Media Day. The day provided pupils with the opportunity to create a Rio Olympic Games promotional video that can be used to advertise the games which start Friday 5th August 2016.

Each Year 8 Tutor Group was divided into 5 groups of 5 or 6 pupils. Using an iPad, each group planned, produced, edited then presented their video at the end of the day. The best promotional video from each Tutor Group will be chosen and presented in an assembly. The overall winning team will receive a special prize and their video will be used by Kingshill School to promote the 2016 Rio Olympic Games.

Miss A. Moss, Physical Education Teacher





Netball

Ella Halpin 8F and Katie Pauling 8E are both avid Netball players.

This year alone they have been playing for the school team, their club team and the District Satellite Academy. They both have recently trailed against hundreds of girls for a place in the County Squad and we are thrilled to announce that they have both been selected! Congratulations girls we are very proud of you both!

Miss R. Steel, Physical Education Teacher



Kingshill shines at County Athletics

A massive well done and congratulations to Harry Hodges 9B and Jessica Gorton 11D for competing in the Gloucestershire School Counties Athletics Competition. Harry competed in the 300m and came 3rd whilst Jessica came 7th in the Shot competition.

Special congratulations to former Kingshill pupil Nicholas Ritchings for competing in the Javelin at the Wiltshire Schools Athletics Competition. Nicholas won with his personal best of 48.28m.

Mrs C. See, Athletics Coach



Oscar winning

On the weekend of 18th June 2016 Oscar Powell 10B competed in a National Competition for Four-Cross Mountain Biking and won in his age category. This has resulted in him ranking first in the country! Oscar will be competing in the upcoming National Championships.

Congratulations Oscar - What an achievement!

Miss R. Steel, Physical Education Teacher



Congratulations to Max Barnfield 9G

Max was thrilled to hear that he had won an official England Football shirt. Max was successfully selected at random from Edwards and Ward's (our catering company) Euro competition. A big thank you and well done to all those that entered the competition.



James Newman 10B and Jack Morris 11E were presented with signed Joe Root shirts as a result of their outstanding achievements in cricket throughout their time at Kingshill School. James currently captains the District Cricket team having represented the County when he was younger and Jack has represented Gloucestershire in their County Cricket team over the last 3 years.

Joe Root kindly supports Kingshill School and we look forward to following his success as part of the England team.

Mr P. Hamblin, Head of Physical Education

Dancing Delights!

Congratulations to all pupils that competed in the Tewkesbury Competitive Dance Festival on Sunday 5th June 2016.

Stella Stephens 8A won a gold medal with a mark of 88 in the Inter Choreography section, performing her tap routine that she created for this year's school Dance Evening. Amazingly, Stella won another gold medal for the Inter Song & Dance group performing 'I Know Things Now' from the musical 'Into the Woods'. She will be taking on the role of Little Red in the whole school production of 'Into the Woods' in July 2016. Well done Stella!

Well done to Ella Bettis 9C who came 2nd in her tap category, Paige Walton 8F, Lucy Harvey 7A, Catrin Guy 8F and Amelia Calvert 8A who came joint 3rd in the Inter Cabaret group and Emily Grearson 11E, Martha Allan Molland 9D and Francesca Taylor 9C who came 3rd in the Senior Cabaret group.

Miss A. Moss, Physical Education Teacher

Kingshill School renew partnership with local law firm

The Kingshill Physical Education Faculty is delighted to renew their partnership with the Gloucestershire based law firm, Thomas Legal Group.

The firm has generously sponsored a set of team Tennis and Cricket shirts that have been worn by our school teams throughout this season. The Year 10 Cricket team and the U15 Tennis team have both qualified for the District Finals and we look forward to reporting on their success in our next newsletter. On behalf of the pupils, the Physical Education Faculty wish to thank Thomas Legal Group for their continued support.



The School Games

by: Mrs H. Pauling, School Games Organiser

Kingshill have taken part in many different School Games events this year. We have entered teams into the Table Tennis / Boccia / Badminton / Indoor Rowing / Girls' Football / Archery / Mountain Biking / Kwik Cricket. These events have involved a large amount of pupils and the diversity of competitions has enabled some pupils to represent Kingshill who have not had the opportunity before.

Leadership Academy

We have over 100 pupils who take part in our sports leadership academy over the year, who have volunteered approximately 2000 hours to support events and activities both in school and in the local community.

They develop skills such as communication, teamwork, resilience, organisation, problem solving to name a few. These life skills will help them to be better learners across their school and home life and as they progress up the school, become key employability skills for the future.

The sports leaders from Year 7-11 have been involved with over twenty primary competitions this year and enable thousands of primary school pupils to take part in sports events. I am very proud of the pupils I take into the community to deliver these events as they always give of their best.

Level 4 School Games Volunteers

We are excited to be taking eight, Year 9 volunteers to Loughborough University to be involved with the National School Games finals in September 2016. Kizzy Richardson 9F, Gracie Napier 9F, Elizabeth Wagstaff 9B, Abigail Evans 9B, Aaron White 9D, Rhys Simmonds 9D, Christopher Thorn 9A and Alfie Chambers 9B will have the opportunity to watch and support elite competition in a variety of sports.

Talent Inspiration Programme

Four pupils have been selected to take part in a National Talent camp which runs alongside the Level 4 School Games. It is a programme which gives talented pupils the opportunity to experience a Multi-Sport Olympic / Paralympic style competition and to continue to inspire them to achieve. Oscar Powell 10B, Jack Clark 10F, Robbie Jackson 10D and Bethany Mackinnon 9E will take part in a variety of workshops and will have the opportunity to work with talented athlete mentors.