



## Year 4 Trip to Flatford Mill

23rd June 2023

Year 4 had three nights away earlier this week at the historically significant and beautiful Flatford Mill. Many thanks to Mrs Richards and Mr Hare for organising and accompanying the boys on this special trip.

Below are some thoughts from the boys - it is clear they had a great time.

NB: Flatford Mill has a 64 page souvenir chronicle containing words and poems. It is now on sale for £10 in aid of the Year 4 class charity, Allergy UK. Simply send in £10 in an envelope to Mr Hare and we will send a copy home. Many thanks in advance.

Also,. Next week Y4 will be selling their charity cookbook to everyone/anyone who is interested. It is 76 pages of family friendly recipes (could be useful for the long holidays) and all proceeds are to go to Allergy UK. Sale Wednesday 28th June - after school. Minimum donation of £15.







## Year 4 Trip to Flatford Mill



Felix Johnson

I enjoyed the disappearing animals activities. It was really fun when we got to catch Bugs and arachnids. I wish I could go to flatford for eternity but sadly that is improbable.

Georgie The Flatford Mill trip was my first time away from home by myself, so in that sense it was really successful. One of my best (but slightly annoying) memories is the dogs the fact that we could chat at 6:30 am was fun but listening to the duck song all night to the duck song is a slightly different thing.

Willy

I really liked making shelters because we had to adventure into the wild to get the resources. I also really liked the blindfolded obstacle course because we had to test our different senses.

Ashwin C

Flatford Mill 19/6/23 - 21/6/23

I really enjoyed the exciting and new things (well at the start) trip of Flatford Mill. The thing that really stood out though was the compass orientating and spending 2 nights with my friends. I chose the compass orientating because you had to work as a team. I will remember the nights away very well because you could see what people were really like.



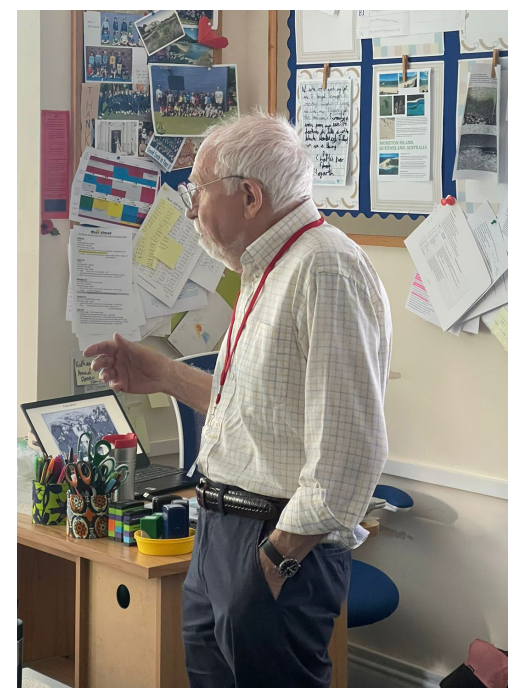


## Year 2 Trip to Sheen Air Raid Shelter

On Wednesday we watched a video about an Air Raid Shelter in Sheen. When the video was over, we got ready to go and walked down the road to the Air Raid Shelter. Finally, we arrived and walked down the old, dark stairs. By the time we got down it was so dark we needed a light. Then we looked at the old wooden toilets and the unstable seats. After that we had a quick look at the heating then we looked at the bedrooms. They were made from unstable wood, some were very high, some were very low beds. They looked very uncomfortable and cold. Then we looked at the emergency exits. The emergency exits were there just in case the main entrance was bombed. To get to the exits, you would have to climb up the ladder then open the metal hatch. It looked very scary. 48 people could sleep inside the shelter. I felt very excited when I was there. Finally, we went back to school.



Sebastian Hill, Year 2







## Masters of the Velocipede

No, not the latest series from Marvel – a nod towards the fantastic opportunities offered to Year 6 this week. We were delighted that a team from Richmond Local Authority returned to THS to deliver The National Standard Bikeability Training (Cycling Proficiency in old money).

With congestion in the capital not set to improve any time soon – learning to cycle safely is one of life's most essential skills – well done to the boys, who all passed with flying colours!







## The World is our Oyster

Nick Carter, the explorer and adventurer, is coming into school on Monday the 26th of June to talk about his amazing adventures, like climbing Mount Everest, living with remote tribes, and swimming the English Channel (even though he wasn't very good at swimming).

Nick uses his amazing adventures to teach children how to take more courageous decisions in life; and how kindness, bravery and resilience can be used to make every day more meaningful.

Nick has published his first children's book (£12) that tells the stories behind his biggest adventures to date (the Amazon, exploring the world's deepest caves, etc) and explains how to develop important adventure values yourself. The book also nudges children to go out and experience these values through age-appropriate missions. If you'd like to order a copy for your own young adventurer, please bring in cash on the day.

We think the boys will be fascinated and inspired by what Nick has to say and are excited to welcome him into school on Monday.







## Very Happy Staff News

We are delighted to announce the arrival of the newest member of the THS community. Finlay Robin Glover Macdonald was born on Monday at 15:57 Weighing in at a very healthy 9lb4oz.

I am sure everyone will join me in congratulating Mr and Mrs Macdonald.







## Achievements Outside School

We were delighted to hear that one of Jake Pinkster's (Year 3) pieces has just been selected to be displayed in an Art Exhibition in Peckham in July.

Well done Jake - what an amazing watercolour!







### Library Notice

"We have a large number of outstanding books that haven't been returned to the library. Please can you check at home and return any ASAP. Thank you very much, Mrs Maxwell"

### FOTH News

#### BBQ

We are looking forward to the BBQ next Thurs 29 June.

A final plea for toy and fancy dress donations - what better excuse for a weekend clear-out!

And bakers, get ready to make some delicious creations for the Cake Stall.

BBQ Tickets are no longer on sale. If you have any ticket enquiries, please email: [chair@foth.org.uk](mailto:chair@foth.org.uk) ([chair@foth.org.uk](mailto:chair@foth.org.uk))

Tickets can be collected this Monday, 26 June, from the Junior School Entrance, 8-8.45am.

Any uncollected tickets will be given to the boys (an email from your reps will tell you when this happens so you can check bags etc)

Big thanks to everyone

FOTH Team





FOTH  
BBQ



CALLING FOR  
NEW OR NEARLY NEW  
TOY DONATIONS



PLEASE DROP OFF OUTSIDE THE  
SCHOOL OFFICE







# CALLING ALL BAKERS!



We need cakes, cupcakes, brownies, biscuits and savoury bakes for the BBQ on 29 June!

All nut free, and any gluten free appreciated

Email Anne: [asmoores@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:asmoores@hotmail.co.uk) with details of contributions

On the day, leave your baked donations in the THS Old Hall (before noon) or bring them Barnes Home Guard from 11am

**Please name all containers**









## THS Legends X1 – The Day of Destiny

(In a relatively slow news week we are delighted to include a couple of match reports from Tom Singlehurst following a series of parent/teacher matches last Sunday. Thanks go to Tom, not only for these erudite [if a little long] reports – but also for organising and rallying the troops!)

Sunday 18 June. Father's Day.

After 6 months of anticipation the moment had arrived: the three-way KHS vs OVS vs THS cricket tournament. For the uninitiated, the format was simple: four teams, one each from KHS, OVS and THS as well as a Barbarians team made up by a motley crew of teachers, old boys and even older dads from THS/KHS/OVS games of yesteryear; a pair of semi-finals and then a final/3rd-4th playoff. The THS team looking resplendent in classy THS Legends X1 kit (there is no 'I' in the THS Legends team), OVS looking a bit more like a group of rugby league players on a trip down south (more slimline than bodyline).

In the slightly hazy sunshine, the combatants assembled at King's House Sportsground shortly after midday. After some warmup beers, the draw revealed the first two matches: KHS vs THS and OVS vs the (mainly THS) Barbarians.

KHS won the toss and elected to bat. The first few overs were ominous. Despite some incredible pace bowling from Sevi Rixson - and some decidedly less incredible bowling from Tom Singlehurst - the opening pair at KHS rattled off sixty plus runs in the first 8 overs. At this stage, fortunately, the tournament rule book intervened with both KHS openers having to retire having reached their 25 run limit.

Although KHS's number 3 also racked up the runs - and in due course had to retire himself - the pace of scoring slowed considerably following a period of more measured medium pace bowling from Alex Pitchford and Matt Hughes. In the field we started to look a bit more lively with Sevi Rixson just missing a diving catch over mid-on and then pinging in a near-direct hit from an unwise single.

As the run rate slowed, the pressure on the batting side increased and it was only a matter of time before the breakthrough came. First blood was a caught and bowled from Matt Hughes - some cricketing justice after what looked like a slight obstruction for a similar catch the ball before.







## THS Legends X1 – The Day of Destiny

The highlight of the innings, though, was yet to come. Inevitably it was the Shulman-Earl axis that proved decisive. The scene was set with Brad Shulman securing a series of dot balls during his first over, just at the point where KHS needed to be kicking on with the run rate. As the frustration rose, the KHS batsman hit out lofting the ball towards mid-wicket only for it to be plucked out of the air by an athletic Gareth Earl.

Five or six minutes later, after the celebrations had ended and play resumed, Shulman and Earl (or Shearle) did it again. The same delivery, the same shot and the same outcome: Earl, the cricketing cat who got the cream. Sadly, the tournament rules affording incoming batsmen a free hit prevented this being registered on the scorecard, but it will live long in the memories of those of us lucky enough to witness (largely because I suspect Gareth will remind us).

Thereafter the innings petered out with KHS scoring a total of 130 off the 100 balls (kudos to Earl, James Ellis, Nick Hill and Martin Beaumont for making this happen with some great bowling), leaving THS a target run rate of 1.3 per ball.

In response Alex Pitchford and Matt Hughes set off at a brisk old pace notching up 26 runs off three overs. Pitchford was clean bowled in the 4th over, but with 23 runs (ie 2 from retirement) this wasn't too costly. Matt Hughes then kicked on with his 26 (retired) including 3 fours and a six.

At this stage the run rate began to slow. Not crazily, but enough to make things nervy. Despite some steady running between the wickets from David Walsh and Ricky Sampson, by the 50 ball/10 over mark, THS was on 67, ie barely on track to reach the 131 target.

With David Walsh unluckily caught behind for 6, again Shulman made the difference. Over 15 saw THS get 20 runs all from Shulman: a four, a two and two sixes, both over the long boundary. It then only took Sevi Rixson and Ricky Sampson (not out on 12) 10 more balls to get to the total, with Sevi finishing with a flourish, knocking an almighty six over long off.

With THS safely into the final, the big question was who we were going to face. As it turned out, despite a spirited effort from the Barbarians, OVS had prevailed in their semi-final. Game on!

Having won the toss, THS opted to bat - the view being that, having got our eye in, it would be worth trying to sustain the momentum from the first game. With the rain clouds forming on the horizon, though, this proved to be a costly error.

As it happens, the THS batting was again solid. OVS had a fairly pace-y attack but this didn't stop our openers (David Walsh and Sevi Rixson) racing to 30 after three overs. Both ended up losing their wickets just under the retirement threshold but then, despite the best efforts of Martin Hill (eventually caught for 19) the run rate drifted in the middle 10 overs. Despite best efforts, the middle order of Shulman, Hughes, Pitchford, Ellis and Brady didn't quite click as it had in the first game. Nevertheless, we still set a score of 123 which could yet be difficult to reach in the context of some focused bowling/fielding.





## THS Legends X1 – The Day of Destiny

This is where the elements came into play, and not to our advantage. It is a broadly appreciated that a little bit of moisture in the air can make the ball swing; full on stair rods, however, turns it into a greasy sponge. It also turns the wicket into an ice rink for anyone attempting pace.

In this context, we weren't as competitive as perhaps we could have been when OVS came into bat. Given the weather conditions, we opened with spin from both Matt Hughes and Sevi Rixson. Medium pace from Alex Pitchford and James Ellis followed but we struggled to keep the run rate down and OVS reached our target with a fine six from their captain in the 15th over, despite some stoic fielding, in particular from Dai Clement and Teon Rosandic at long on and long off respectively. With OVS claiming the main trophy, the Barbarians prevailed in the 3rd/4th playoff, leaving the leader board as follows: 1. OVS; 2. THS; 3. Barbarians; 4. KHS.



Mrs Linthwaite (formerly head of OVS) handed out the prizes.

Mrs Linthwaite paid a very poignant tribute to her late husband Peter who originally initiated the inter-school cricket fixtures between OVS/KHS/THS all the way back in 2011. The general view appeared to be that the one-day tournament was a great success, and that Peter would have approved.

The event raised upwards of £1800 for Rwanda Aid, King's House School's charity.

Gareth Earl received the 'moment of the tournament' novelty box for his athletic catch in the tournament opener against KHS.





# Tower House School

## SEPTEMBER NEW KIT

As we informed parents about last term I am delighted that we will have some lovely new items of school kit in September.

These new items are now on sale with School Zone so please do order online or visit the shop in Kingston.

Just for clarification please see below which year groups require what;

Reception and Year 1 will continue to use the white polo shirt and soft tracksuit for all their PE & games lesson.

Year 2-8 will use the NEW polo shirt for PE, NEW rugby shirt for autumn and spring term games lessons. We would like all boys to have these items for September. We also have some nice new school blue shorts and these are also on sale. However, if your sons blue shorts still fit they may wear them for one more year and the new ones will become compulsory from September 2024.

MrP







## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Monday 26th June

- 8.40: Y7/8 "Talk Consent" guest speaker Dan Allchurch
- 11.20: Y8 Talk from Nick Carter, adventurer
- 12.30: Year 6 HRF trip
- 2.15: Y7/8 House match cricket semi-finals
- 4pm: JS optional parents evening - online.

### Tuesday 27th

- All day: Y8 Flying day
- 2.15: Y4/5 House match cricket semi-finals
- 4pm: JS optional parents evening - online.
- 4pm: Y5 Dodgeball and Pizza evening (raffle prize from ball)

### Wednesday 28th

- AM: Y8 Careers Forum
- 2.15: Y7/8 House match cricket finals
- PM: Y6 games at school pick up from school 4.05

### Thursday 29th

- AM: Y8 Escapes rooms morning
- AM: New Boy induction Morning
- 10:40: Y3-Y7 move up period for boys to move up to new classroom and spend time with September Head of Year
- 6pm: FOTH BBQ - Barnes Home Guard

### Friday 30th

- 10.40: Junior summer celebration dress rehearsal shown to Senior school
- 3pm: Junior school summer celebration - New Hall.  
Parents enter via senior gate from 2.45pm
- 2.15: Y4/5 House match cricket finals

**Have a lovely weekend!**

Mr Gregory Evans, Headmaster