



Crossing the Continent

ISSUE 8: SCHOOL EDITION

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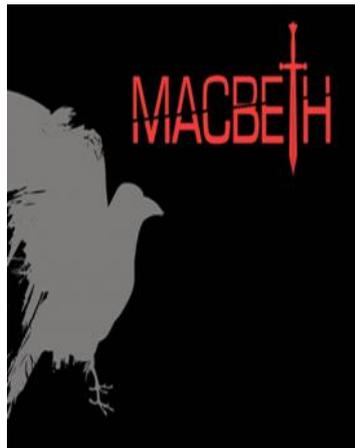
DRAMA PRODUCTIONS: MACBETH

The senior play for the Autumn Term was Macbeth and directed by Mr Ralph who is an English teacher and has also directed other very successful plays. Auditions were held and characters were given out. Head Boy, Theo Barrouh, took the part of Macbeth and Vicky Griffin, who is also a sixth former, took Lady Macbeth. The final performances took place at the beginning of December, creating further pressure due to our growing fatigue.

If you don't know the story of Macbeth, it is an old play set in Scotland, many hundreds of years ago. Macbeth tells the story of jealousy and greed for power to become King of Scotland. Macbeth and his wife commit the murder of many people including the King, in order to claim his right to the throne.

Because of the short time scale in which to produce the play, we had rehearsals almost three times a week and the pressure was on for us to learn our lines. Being Shakespeare this was made even more difficult as it is all in old English. As

the performance grew closer we were a bit nervous but we were confident in each other's ability. The performances were all very well attended and the three shows all went smoothly. We were thankful for the brilliant effort made by Mr Ralph, the sound and technical support, and all the other staff who helped make the production such a great success.



A photo to symbolise the tragedy and mystery that comes behind the story of Macbeth.

This play leads to great opportunities for the students because there are a lot of parts available allowing many people to get involved and lend a hand or two.

All in all, 40 students got involved in the shape of acting, behind the scenes and of course the technical crew who physically made the production possible.

Macbeth was the latest production but throughout the years. West Buckland School has performed many drama and musical productions including: The Crucible by Arthur Miller, Bugsy Malone, We Will Rock You, Midsummer Night's Dream and Fiddler on the Roof. Some of these productions were performed at the Landmark Theatre in Ilfracombe.



By Jamie Muir

THE WIDER LIFE OF WEST BUCKLAND

At West Buckland School, there are a wide range of extra-curricular activities including sports, performing arts and outdoor education. Our sports facilities include a purpose built sports centre where we can play badminton, basketball and netball, an astro-turf; a swimming pool and rugby pitches, to name just a few. The opening of the 150 Theatre, has provided a facility for drama performances for students to take part in as well as opportunities to take part in larger musical productions performed at the Landmark theatre in Ilfracombe (see the article above). Music plays a big part in the extra-curricular life of the school. We have orchestras and choirs that perform regularly for both parents, students and the wider community. West Buckland is situated in an area which offers a diverse range of adventurous activities such as kayaking, climbing, surfing and the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme. Students can be involved

in the Bronze and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award schemes in which they can undertake their expeditions on Exmoor, Snowdonia or in the Lake District. There is something for everybody wherever their interests lie.



By Caitlin Blackmore da Silva



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This magazine is published on a regular basis. The articles are written by students from both West Buckland and Agoro Oyombe Schools, principally those involved in the exchange programme.

Articles from other contributors are most welcome. Please contact the editors using the contact details opposite.

The intended audience is varied: students, teachers, parents, governors and the wider community in the catchment areas of both schools: North Devon and Siaya District.

ALL ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES AT AGORO OYOMBE

Where is the school located?

Agoro Oyombe is a district school which is located in Ng'iya which is on the road between Kisumu and Siaya.

How far is the school from Ng'iya?

The distance from Ng'iya centre to the school is about two kilometres.

What challenges do students face as they come to school?

While coming to school during the rainy season (September and April) those with bicycles carry them on their back.



What are some of the activities the school gets involved in?

Agoro Oyombe is a school in which academic life is very important. In addition, the students participate in co-curricular activities such as football, volleyball, basketball, athletics and netball.

How does the school perform in the co-curricular activities, especially in football?

In matches the school normally wins. This has made the school as a whole to be very proud.

By Caleb Oye

Classroom project at Agoro Oyombe

This photograph shows the roof which was added to the existing classroom structures during 2013-2014. The money for the roof came from the generous donations of parents and other individuals at the West Buckland School carol service in December 2013. Through fundraising efforts at Agoro Oyombe, the external walls have been lime-washed and window frames have been installed and painted.

More money is currently being raised by West Buckland students to help the school complete the classrooms. The Parents' Association have been very helpful in aiding these efforts.

The next objective is to raise the money to provide concrete flooring and the other items you would expect to find in a classroom such as desks and chairs. Please contact Matt Brimson at mtb@westbuckland.com if you are able to help.