



# MILLFIELD

## EQUESTRIAN NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2011



**WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!**



# NSEA Championships

Millfield Teams had qualified for both the Show Jumping and Arena Eventing Championships held at Addington manor on 23rd October 2011, during half term. The day did not begin as it ended.....



Winning SJ Team—Lucy Quesnel, Tommy Quesnel, Charlotte Bonnar, Jess Boyce

We arrived at Addington Manor near Buckingham for a course walk at 7am, ready to jump at 8.45am. The show jumping team of Charlotte Bonnar riding Kernel Clover, Jessica Boyce riding Snapdragon, Tommy Quesnel riding Malibu Beach and Lucy Quesnel riding Emerald Girl, put on what we have to describe as an average performance in the semi-finals. Only 8 teams out of 36 could qualify for the jump off in the International Indoor arena, so the pressure was on from the start. Tommy Quesnel on Malibu Beach was the only one in the Millfield team to go clear. However, other teams were having lots of issues, so we felt we had a chance of getting through, it was a matter of waiting....

At 1pm it was time for the JwS team of Charlotte East on Nookie Bear, Tommy Quesnel on Forever Orange, Jessica Boyce on Snapdragon and Charlotte Bonnar on Kernel Clover to compete. Everyone had to jump 20 fences, a combination of cross country style fences, and show jumps with tight turns and a very technical course to test the rider. We had no idea of the style marks as nothing was announced and no-one knew how well we had done. Eventually the results were announced. **MILLFIELD HAD WON!** Showcasing the fruits of our intensive training to put on an unbeatable performance around the remarkably long and challenging course.

Tommy Quesnel's style mark of just 9 penalties with a clean jumping score was remarkable and Charlotte East was not so far behind. To win this class is a huge credit to Danny and his team, as it is not just the performance of the horse: it is judged on the way the rider tackles the course, demonstrating the riders' ability and harmony with the horse. The judge was Gill Watson, trainer of the British Junior Event Team. So we knew we were under the spotlight.



It was a fantastic feeling when it was announced that Millfield had won the JwS Championships. We received rugs for our horses, sashes to wear in the prize giving and a very generous prize from British Eventing.

After celebrating our win, we felt more relaxed about the show jumping and just wanted to have fun! Danny thought differently and wanted us to win this class as well.

We all walked the course with Danny, who was planning the shortest routes—no pressure. Jess and Snapdragon went first and jumped a lovely fast round in 35.24 seconds with 4 faults. Lucy and Emerald decided to “go for it” and Emerald jumped clear in the second fastest time in the class of 34.63 seconds, being in foal hadn’t slowed her down! Tommy and Malibu Beach jumped another clear in 36.19 seconds, the excitement was mounting. Our supporters could hardly sit in their seats when Charlotte Bonnar was last to go as we knew if she went clear, we had a chance of winning. We were only the second team to go in the Jump Off so we had no idea how things would go. We had set a very hard act to follow of a zero

score and an overall fast time so the pressure was on the remaining teams.

The atmosphere in the arena was indescribable when the final announcement was made at 7.30pm, exactly 12 hours since our arrival at Addington. WE WERE ALSO SHOW JUMPING CHAMPIONS, with a clear convincing margin of 6 seconds. For our horses to jump as well as they did in the Jump Off is amazing when they had arrived so early in the morning and had been waiting around for hours in their boxes. Well done to our wonderful horses! We received more rugs for the horses and sashes plus a fantastic prize of a year’s membership for horse and rider to the British Show Jumping Association. When we did our lap of honour it really was an amazing feeling.

It was a wonderful day for Millfield, thank you to Danny and all the stable staff and parents who came to support us. It will be a day we will never forget.

WELL DONE MILLFIELD EQUESTRIAN...

*Charlotte Bonnar & Danny Anholt*



Tommy Quesnel, Jess Boyce, Charlotte Bonnar & Charlotte East



# DIRECTOR OF RIDING

The school year began in riding with exciting new initiatives, lots of new talented and enthusiastic riders (including more boys riding than ever) and some very exciting competition results. The school horse loan scheme has gone crazy this term, with almost all the school horses loaned to pupils who are unable to have their own horse.

For some years we've been close to winning a schools championship and this half term we did it in style (excuse the pun), by winning both the show jumping and the Jumping With Style championships at Addington Manor. Huge congratulations to Charlotte Bonnar (this year's Captain), Jess Boyce, Tommy Quesnel, Lucy Quesnel and Charlotte East. A brilliant achievement, but I'm confident that this is just a taste of what's to come at Hickstead in July!

I also travelled to the Horse of the Year Show in Birmingham with some of our pupils to support our Prep School riding scholar, Phoebe Locke. Phoebe had qualified two ponies, one for the 138cm championship and her new stallion for the 148cm champs. She rode a remarkably mature round to come 4<sup>th</sup> in the 138, securing her place at Olympia. Being the youngest in the 148, she did amazingly well to have just one fence down in the first round.



Our conditioning sessions on a Monday and Thursday with Ocean Physio are now well established. I'm hoping that riders will begin to make the exercises a part of their daily routine to ensure a more balanced and independent position in the saddle. My thanks to Dave and Tom from Ocean for delivering these sessions. They have listened to your feedback and will be modifying the work next term, to suit the specific requirements of riders.

The Greatwood programme has continued to be popular with local schools and this term we were invited to be a part of a display at Cheltenham Races, where Greatwood sponsor the main race. Despite our lorry breaking down with our horses and some of our pupils and staff, we still managed to put on a great performance and the children on our programme (as well as the Millfield pupils) were not at all fazed by being in front of the huge crowds and TV cameras!

**I would still love for more Millfield pupils to become involved in this wonderful scheme. If you have a spare hour on a Wednesday afternoon (or a free period on other af-**

**ternoons), do please let me know.**

We were rather honoured to be invited to host the BHS Equitation and Coaching (E & C) exam in October. A number of our more experienced riders and horses took part and we were complimented on running a very efficient and successful day. So much so that we've just been invited to do the same again next year. The date is now fixed for 8 October 2012.

We also held a successful Stage 4 training day a month later. These days go a long way to promoting the high standards of training and horse management that we uphold at Millfield, so thank you to those pupils (and staff) who participate and lend horses - it's much appreciated.

Outside trainers have continued to give their clinics on Wednesday afternoons: Jon Pitts, Peter Cook (4 clinics), Stephen Hadley (twice), Clare Sansom (twice) and Pammy Hutton (twice). Everyone has learned and benefited from the wealth of experience and knowledge that these professionals bring to our clinic days. May I put in plea to riders to sign up in plenty of time for these sessions, as Val does have to finalise their schedules the week before. They do travel a long way and leave their own yards, horses and pupils for a day for our benefit.

In the BHS exam course, I'm pleased to report that our new intake of L6th pupils, Laura Rex-Dyke, Olivia Price and Johanna Hinrichs already passed their Stage 1 (just one section for one pupil to re-sit!). From the U6th, Alex Barbier, Chloe Locke and Steph Tibbles all passed Child Protection & First Aid & Stage 2 riding .

Our staff have also been busy taking exams: Flora passed ST 3, Holly Stage 4, Gemma, Tanya and Helen all passed Stage 1 and Jo Roper passed 5 of 6 modules for the ITT. Well done, all of you!

The Riders' Forum organized our Christmas show last week. Chloe Locke multi-tasked as show secretary, judge and commentator with Olivia Price (even after the PA failed!). Teddy Stevens and Amelia James maintained our previous puissance record of 1.60m - an amazing feat from both of them. Teddy has been a consistent competitor on Kanny, competing him regularly now in 1.20 and 1.30m classes. Amelia amazed us all with Harry, who is still very inexperienced, but showed remarkable scope and ability.

MEC has run three inter-schools competitions: JWS and dressage at Senior School and show jumping at Prep. Thanks to everyone, pupils, staff, Val and Jo, who help these days to be so efficient and successful. Congratulations also to Millfield teams for winning the JWS and the show jumping.

Millfield riders have also attended schools competitions at and Blundells and the ISODE at Stonar, as well as BE competitions at Pontispool and Gatcombe. Numerous outings to BS, dressage and unaffiliated competitions have pretty well worn out the Millfield horsebox.

I'm delighted to tell you that when you come back next term the indoor school will have a brand new surface. Enjoy!

Kirsty Fontaine-Henley will be returning from maternity leave next term. Our thanks and best wishes to Rikke Jonasson, who has been a terrific stand-in. I'm delighted that Rikke will remain in a part-time capacity until she returns to Denmark in the summer.

BJ competitors have been out and about all term with some notable successes. Teddy Stevens won the 1.10 at Kingston Maurward and qualified for the Blue chip Cham-

pionships, Lulu Mesquita seems to win every 1m (Juniors) class she enters.

Finally, may I wish you (and your horses) a very happy and restful Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in January.

*Danny Anholt*

*Director of Riding*

## HOYS

Phoebe Locke



This year Phoebe Locke competed at the prestigious Horse of the Year Show, commonly known as 'The most famous horse show in the world'. Phoebe was lucky enough to qualify two of her BSJA ponies to compete in the 128cm and 138cm class.

To qualify for Horse of the Year Show competitors must jump 3 rounds clear and then come in the top 3 places, and children from all over the UK compete in these qualifiers.

Phoebe competed in the 128cm class first, on her 14 year old, black mare, Pussycat Doll. Phoebe jumped a clear round and achieved a place in the 7 strong jump off. Phoebe rode a very mature round and gained another clear. Her level head managed to secure her 4<sup>th</sup> place, and she was the top placed girl in the country.

From this achievement Phoebe was selected for the England Team in Cheshire, where her team achieved the silver medal. Due to her performance at HOYS she has also achieved a place in the H&M 128cm Championship at Olympia this Christmas.

In the 138cm class Phoebe rode her new stallion Grey Palace, Phoebe qualified this pony for HOYS at the second show she had ever ridden him at, and he hadn't even come home to her family's yard! Unfortunately Phoebe just had 4 faults, but Grey Palace jumped very well, and they came 7<sup>th</sup>.

12 year old, Phoebe started at Millfield this September and is really enjoying it. She hopes to start competing in some school teams with her new 148cm pony Dakota.

*Chloe Locke*

### Millfield Equestrian Centre Staff AutumnTerm 2011

<b>Director Of Riding</b>	Danny Anholt BHSI, HT
<b>Assistant Director of Riding</b>	Kirsty Fontaine-Henley BHSII
<b>Yard Manager</b>	Susan Jones
<b>Senior Groom</b>	Camilla Jackson
<b>Admin Manager</b>	Val Young
<b>Admin Secretary</b>	Jo Haley
<b>Instructors</b>	Clare Haste BHSII Jo Roper BHSAI Holly Wells BHSAI Kim Wright (PTT) Sophie Stones Claire Wilkins BHSII (part time)

### **Grooms**

Kirsty Barker  
Gemma Moss  
Flora Rigby  
Helen Darch  
Tanya Robbins  
Laura Thurlow

### **Millfield Prep Stables Chief Instructor**

Jo Stirling BHSAI

### **MPS Instructor**

Lucie Johnson BHSAI

Laurel Cooke

### **MPS Groom**

Danielle Thompson-Webb

### **Polo Coach**

Roger Horne

### **Polo Groom**

Ella Hooper

# NSEA Millfield Dressage Qualifier

On Sunday October 16<sup>th</sup>, Millfield held its annual dressage qualifier for the NSEA national championships; which were held just one week after this competition. Millfield had many riders entered and it looked to be a busy day and with the weather looking cheerful it was a positive start to the day.

The first class of the day was a prelim warm up and millfield had several riders entered all of who produced good solid tests. This class was a huge success for millfield riders with Jack Salter and his lovely pony Tonto winning with 68.33% and Foula Schanche and Flora Lickiss scoring 67.92% on their young horses and coming 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively. Unfortunately this was not a qualifier.

Next up was the novice warm up class, this also was not a qualifier and with just 10 competitors entered it was a quick class, and the results were of a good standard again with Millfield's Kate Zvyginsteva on a Millfield school horse, Woody coming joint 5<sup>th</sup>. This class was won by Saskia Simonson from Blundells, with Trevenen Tomboy scoring 66.67% for a lovely accurate test.

The next class was the most contested class of the day, the team class. With 19 teams battling for the last two spots at nationals. In the team class you had 2 riders at prelim level and 2 riders at novice level. Millfield had 2 teams entered, but unfortunately both teams did not manage to place but there was good scores put forward

from Charlotte Bonnar on Kernal Clover, Johanna Hinrichs on Prince Pontus and Flora Lickiss on Jack. Stonar won this class with an impressive 9.55% lead, with special mention to Sarah Pinfield for scoring over 80%. Thomas Hardy came 2<sup>nd</sup> with 4 solid tests. Well done to both schools for earning their national places.

After that there was an elementary warm up and only 3 riders were entered, but congratulations to Angus Corrie-Deane and Felinmor Buddy for winning the class with over a 7% lead. Angus produced a pleasant, well-ridden test on his lovely pony.

The final class of the day was the elementary individual qualifier and with 19 riders entered competing for the qualifying spaces. This class was again won by Angus Corrie-Deane and his beautiful pony, with an excellent score of 71%, once again he rode very well. There were 3 millfield riders entered who all posted plus 60% scores and produced promising tests on their horses/ponies.

Overall the day went very well and even though we did not manage to qualify for nationals, I think everyone rode excellently and I would like to thank all of the staff on behalf of everyone for the excellent organization and presentation of this event, Especially Danny and Rikke for warming up all riders and reading for them, and to Val and Jo for the smooth running of the event with all their behind the scenes work!

## An interview with.....

**Holly Wells—Instructor at Millfield Senior School**

**How long have you worked at Millfield Holly?**

It will be two years in February.

**How did you start working with horses?**

Basically, after 'mum' & 'dad', 'horse' was my first word, hahah, I wasn't particularly keen on the academic stuff at school, but really loved being on a horse, so it was the most natural thing for me to plan my career around horses.

**What was your first paid position after leaving school?**

I worked for Jabina Maslin, but it wasn't really a paid position, I worked but got free livery, lived-in and spent a year gaining some incredible insight into the world of a dealer/show jumper. I don't think I would be where I am today if it wasn't for her.

**So what's the best part of being an instructor?**

Watching people grow as riders and expanding their knowledge and knowing that you have helped someone else achieve their personal goals. Watching them progress into a more competent or confident rider.

**Do you have a favourite school horse?**

**If so, who & why?**

I am biased, Ted happens to be my own horse, so naturally I love him just a little more than the rest.

**What do you get up to in your spare time?**

MORE horses, hunting, show jumping and occasionally I'll go and play hockey. It has been known for me to partake in a glass of wine or 2!

**If you could be anywhere right now, where would it be and what would you be doing?**

Right now? Lying on a beach in the Maldives with a fit chap..... No names, just in case.

**Please give us one piece of wisdom.**

Everything always happens for a reason!



# SPRING TERM DATES

**This list is a guide only and competitions are subject to change.** If you have any dates you would like added, please let Val know. Look for signups on the board between the barns, if you would like to take part. We will also be going to some evening unaffiliated dressage and jumping throughout the term. There are no Millfield staff available to take pupils to the events shown in square brackets.

<b>January</b>		<b>Sun 26th</b>	<b>MPS NSEA Jws - Qualifier mini 70cm + 80cm</b>
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	Riding & Road Safety begins 2pm Theory Pammy Hutton Clinic	Wed 29th	Riding & Road Safety Exam first test 1.30 pm
Sat 21st	Junior BS Hand BD Badgworth (entries close 7/1)	<b>March</b>	
Sun 22nd	Junior JS Hand BE JAS 90, 100, N, Open Hartpury (entries open 3/1)	Sat 3rd & 4th	BE Moreton (1)
Wed 25th	Riding & Road Safety 2pm Mounted Clare Sansom FBHS SJ clinic	Sun 4th	JS Hand
Sun 29th	Senior JS Hand MSRC Unaffiliated at Kingfisher (entries close 22 Jan)	Wed 7th	Stephen Hadley SJ Clinic Peter Cook dressage clinic
<b>February</b>		Fri 16th/Sat 17th	BE Aldon
Wed 1st	Riding & Road Safety 2pm Mounted	& Sun 18th	
Sat 4th	BYRDS dressage clinic at Millfield JS Hand	Sun 18th	JS Hand
Sun 5th	<b>NSEA SHOW JUMPING AT MILLFIELD QUALIFIER</b>	Sat 24th & Sun 25th	BE Gatcombe
Wed 8th	Peter Cook Dressage clinic Riding & Road Safety 2pm Mounted	<b>April</b>	
Wed 22nd	Pammy Hutton Dressage Clinic Riding & Road Safety - Roadwork	Sat 10th/Sun 11th	(BE Portman)
		Sun 22nd	(BE Bovington)
		<b>May</b>	
		Sun 20th	Derby Show at Millfield

## Polo

I remember one evening my mum asking me if I would be interested in playing polo. I knew nothing about it at the time. It's been 2 years since I've started and now I'm not sure how I could live without it.

I'd never taken to traditional riding, the rigidity and then discipline wasn't something I found interesting or excited by, however, I loved horses. Polo provided the perfect solution. The relaxed approach to riding, the adrenalin fuelled game, the team work and skill was all a winning combination. As you can imagine when explained that polo could be a part of my life as a Millfieldian I jumped at the opportunity.

My main concern was that I wouldn't be able to play dur-

ing the winter months ( the polo season is between May and September) as I couldn't afford to lose my seat. So after talking to Roger and Danny who kindly helped organise Arena polo for myself and Jenny, the problem was solved. I was curious to see how the teaching style at Vaux Park would differ to what I was used to back at Ham, but was delighted to meet Tim our instructor, who offers brilliant advice and is incredibly encouraging. So far polo at Vaux has been great preparation for the Summer months, when no doubt the polo will be very competitive and to which I look forward to a great deal.

*Tess Gullis*

# Prep News

The Millfield Prep Equestrian Centre has seen an extremely busy autumn term this year with many of the pupils at prep keen to learn how to ride and improve. We had a great start to the year with a team placing at Blundells One day event. We've had a steady stream of placings at other events during the year thanks to the hard work of our students (and of course their parents who seem to run on Duracell batteries!). Our liveries have also had a number of chances to attend other competitions, gaining valuable experience for the future.

The popularity of polo at Prep has also received a large boost this term. To cope with demand we now run sessions on a Monday lunchtime and Saturday morning with an excursion to a nearby specialist polo training centre for those students who are proficient with the basics. We would love to see some boys come and have a go!!

We often have questions relating to the borrowing of safety equipment at Prep. We have a range of hats available to borrow, free of charge, for those riders who are just starting out. Although it does not happen very often, if we are unable to find a hat to fit suitably (our range is good but not exhaustive), then the child will not be allowed to ride and the parents will be informed. With regards to body protectors we recommend that children have one when they start to learn to jump. They are mandatory for jumping in the fields. Recently there has been a change to the standard of body protectors which means that our stock is now out of date and no longer available to borrow. Parents will therefore need to purchase their own if they wish their child to wear one. Your instructor will inform you if they feel your child is at a stage where they require one.

Due to the large increase in numbers of children wishing to ride we do still have a waiting list. We are working hard

to increase the availability of lessons so please rest assured that we have not forgotten about your request - we are simply waiting for an appropriate slot to become available.

The stables look set to remain busy next term. Our next event to be held at prep is the NSEA Jumping With Style competition on the 26<sup>th</sup> February - fingers crossed for some dry weather!!!

Happy Christmas to all our riders and their parents. We look forward to seeing you next term.

*Jo Stirling*

*Chief Instructor, MPS Riding*



## Unaffiliated Show Jumping

On Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November, 10 riders went to Hand Equestrians for an unaffiliated show-jumping competition. We left Millfield at 11.30 and arrived at Hand just before 12.30 to meet at least 50 entries in each class. We knew we were in for a long day. Riders were entered in various classes from 2ft6 and 3ft6. Our first competitor to compete was Honey Scott in the 2ft6. Honey and Radeina warmed up positively and Honey put in a good effort in the arena. In the next class, 2ft9, Honey was joined by Eleanor Robbins and Jasmine Lewis. All 3 put in good rounds.

By this time it was about 5:30pm and the 3ft class had just started, with Ellie Robbins, Jasmine Lewis and Becky Parry. This was a successful class with Ellie Robbins coming first on a very fast time, with her pony Morgan. Jasmine Lewis was also in the placing with Finlay and Becky Parry had a very unlucky 4 faults. Next it was the 3ft6 class with several Millfield riders entered, Becky Parry, Jessica Boyce, Charlotte Bonnar, Alix Barbier, Harry Humfrey and Lucinda Mesquita. Becky, Jess, Charlotte and Aix had an unlucky four faults

but Harry Humfrey and Lucinda Mesquita had clear rounds. Lucinda with her pony, Finn won the class and Harry came 4<sup>th</sup>.

Finally it was the last class of the day with all the same riders as the previous class except Becky. This course proved to be more challenging with no clears from anyone. Lucinda won the class on the fastest 4 faults.

We then headed back to school and eventually hit Millfield at 9:15. A big thank you to all the staff who came and helped us out and spent a very long day with us all. It was very much appreciated by us all.



*Lulu Mesquita*

# Unaffiliated Dressage

On Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup> November, at 7am, 4 riding students arrived at the riding stables, bright and early. We gathered our things and made our way to the horse transporter, where we loaded Buster, Inky, Snoopy and Arki, along with all their tack and our competition things. We let the transporter make its way to the Kingfisher Equestrian Centre, and we went in the landrover with Flora and Rikke drove in her car. After we all assembled at Kingfisher we unloaded Buster and Inky, ready for the first dressage test, preliminary 1. Natasha and Harriotte tacked up and made their way to the warm up arena. With the support of Rikke, Flora, Yasmin and Kim we were ready to start the first test. I went first on buster, then Natasha on Inky. We were pleased with how it went, and both getting rosettes Natasha 7<sup>th</sup> and me 8<sup>th</sup>. Natasha also got best turned out. Then after an hour we were up again for Preliminary 7, Kim arrived, and helped us tack the horses up again. After testing each other we were

ready to go to the warm up arena. I was up first again and then Natasha, we were consistent because Natasha got 7<sup>th</sup> again and I got 8<sup>th</sup>. That was us finished for the day and we said well done to the horses with a few polo's and put them back in the transporter.

Now it was Kim and Yasmin's turn. We tacked up Arki and Snoopy ready for them to do preliminary 1. They went to the warm up arena and got ready to go. Yasmin was first and did a really nice test on Snoopy. Then Kim went on Arki, he did really well too. They both got placed, Yasmin came 6<sup>th</sup> and Kim 7<sup>th</sup>. We then had a while until the next test, so we watched other people do their tests. Then it was time to tack up, again. Yasmin was first and did well coming 8<sup>th</sup> in preliminary 7, and Kim came 9<sup>th</sup>.

We all had a really nice day. Thanks to Kim and Flora for diving and helping boost our confidence, and to Rikke for coaching us all the way.



Sasha Harrison & Inky



Harriotte Preston & Buster



# Greatwood News

Over half term break we had great pleasure in travelling over to Greatwood to collect our new school horse 'Scotty's'. Scotty is a 5 year old thoroughbred bay gelding who used to be a racehorse, however, he was not successful and the original owners gave him up to Greatwood.

Greatwood re-home lots of horses every year. They will happily re-home a horse, however once a horse is with you, he has to stay with you for life or return to Greatwood. They will always take one of their horses back if your situation changes.

Since Scotty has been here I have taken him on as my pet project and I love him. His confidence has improved greatly and he is getting very attached to his stable neighbour Teddy P. He doesn't seem to mind when everyone else goes out into the arena, but he is rather nosy and wants you to say hello to him if you are in the barn.

I lunge Scotty regularly and we have recently begun to jump small fences, At first he found this daunting however, now he is much more focused and settled. He is taking the transition from racehorse to eventer very well.

Scotty is a brave, bold horse despite being so young and often comes back from a hack as the lead as he is so well behaved. Having said that, he is quite playful and likes to play with his lead rope or the other horses in the field. He



recently met Kevin, the farrier. Greatwood had told us that Scotty didn't particularly enjoy having new shoes, but he was exceptionally well behaved for Kevin.

Ultimately, we are re-training him to be a school horse and hope that in the future he will get himself a loan owner.

*Jo Roper*

# MEC Christmas Show

The Millfield Christmas Show yet again turned out to be a success for 2011. This year the format was altered slightly allowing two disciplines a chance to perform-dressage and show jumping.

Numerous people dressed up for the occasion, including Jess Boyce as Rudolph, Ellie Robbins, Yasmin Strutt and Honey Scott, we're not quite sure what they were! Lulu Mesquita was santa and Emily Weeland was Scrooge. Most people included their horses in the fancy dress as well, Charlotte Bonnar has to applauded for her, she even had flashing lights.

The dressage competition took place in the Derby arena with Rikke and Camilla judging. This was the first time we had held a dressage class as well and it was very well subscribed. Johanna Hinrichs won the overall class, but was closely followed by Molly Ragan and Theo.

We had a slight technical hitch with the judges box, but between myself and Olivia Price managed to make ourselves heard.

The show jumping competition proved very successful, the course was a mixture of twists and turns with a gallop to the last fence. Jaz Lewis and Ellie Robbins won the 90cm class, and Phoebe Locke (from Prep School) and

Teddy Stevens won the 1.05m class. There were also medals awarded to the fastest pair of the whole competition Teddy and Phoebe who completed the course clear in a time of 1.08 seconds.

The hot topic of the competition was the puissance, we had a great turn out from competitors who bravely wanted to face the infamous wall. But the overall winner was Teddy Stevens jumping 1.45m, with Phoebe Locke, Minnie Rider and Ellie Robbins in a close 2<sup>nd</sup> place all clearing 1.40m. The competition then continued and Amelia James on her fantastic grey Zorro Toranado and Teddy Stevens on Kanny finished up at 1.60m. This matches the school record.

Thanks to Jo who boosted our sugar levels with millionaire shortbread and peppermint creams, mmmm and all the parents who came to watch and support us.

Well done to everyone who took part you should all be very proud. Roll on next year!

*Chloe Locke*

# Photo Gallery



# YARD MANAGER

Some of you may be aware that we changed our school horses over onto Pure Feeds at the end of the Summer. Pure Feeds is a remarkable food because it avoids excessive starch and sugar, it is also molasses free.

We have seen a complete change in our school horses, Jim has lost an exceptional amount of weight, some of the others have also lost weight, we can see improvements in their muscle mass, their coats are glossier, generally speaking they are looking altogether better.

If you would like to trial your horse on Pure Feeds when you return, please feel free to talk to either Camilla or myself.

It has been reported widely in the press that as an industry we are over worming our horses and the wormers are becoming ineffective. We have continued with our worming screening programme which is proving to be effective. We have cut down on the amount of wormers we are buying and subsequently giving to both our school horses and the liveries. We will only worm your horse if the worm egg count comes back with a positive result.

Although when you return to school it will be the Spring term, it will still be very cold. Please could you all remember to bring your heavier weight rugs.

I know you will all have enjoyed the Christmas break and I look forward to seeing you all again. Remember, when you return to school, your horse will have a change of environment again and you will need to help facilitate that

change. We cannot always turn out due to various factors including the number of horses currently at school and weather conditions. To prevent tying up and colic, you must ride your horse for a minimum of 1 hour per day. They must be properly warmed up and cooled down, remember to pick out their feet when you leave the stable and when you leave the arena. Some of you will have been called back to your stables if you have forgotten to skip out and we will continue to do this.

The Riding and Road Safety programme gets under way this term, if you want to take the test, you can attend the training sessions held here at school on Wednesday afternoons. You will then be better equipped to ride on the roads. It is a BHS exam and if you intend to join BHSAL course in 6th form, you will need to have passed the test to move on to your Stage 2 exam.

Up until half term, hacking will be restricted to Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, leaving no later than 3pm and 2 hacks on Sundays. This is due to the failing light. If you would like to go for a hack, please make sure you bring your high visibility kit with you or you can borrow some of ours. After half term, the evenings get lighter and we can review the situation at that time.

Enjoy the rest of your break folks and we'll see you in a few weeks.

*Camilla & Sue*

## Shearwater for all your insurance



- Horses
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General:  **01992 718666**

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Special rates for Millfieldians and their families  
Contact Jeremy Lawton, Managing Director, Old Millfieldian

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