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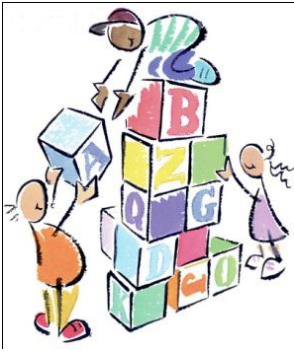
CARSWELL

CUBS

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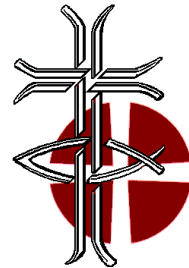
**CAITLYN
DENE
JACK
LAUREN
LOIS
TAMZIN**





This newsletter has been put together by six pupils from Carswell Community Primary School. From content to format and distribution, the group have made all the decisions and done all the work - in just six two-hour sessions. In the course of this, they've used classroom skills, life-skills like team-work, responsibility and working to deadlines, and learnt a lot about health in the community. We hope you'll enjoy reading the results.

This project has been organised by TrinityLearning, an initiative of Trinity Church in Abingdon, and is the latest in a series of events aimed at helping to improve the quality of life in Abingdon schools. Teachers are hard-working professionals with a vital role to play in the education and welfare of our children. We expect them to juggle the needs of around thirty children at the same time - this project can help relieve some of the pressure, by supplying a ready-made challenge for pupils, free of charge.

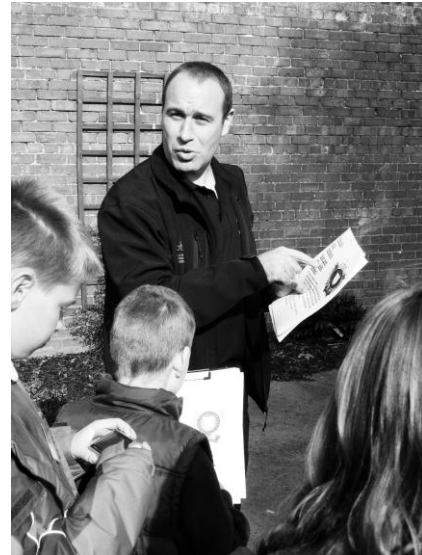


This edition has been made possible by grants from Abingdon Town Council and The Church in Abingdon. We see these as recognising the project's spin-offs in the wider community. TrinityLearning News helps children to feel more involved in their community, as they find out more about Abingdon. It also gives the community a chance to see young people in a positive light, as the newsletter goes out to about 500 homes.

CARSWELL INVADES DALTON BARRACKS

We are 6 pupils that go to Carswell School. We are writing this newspaper to learn different things that involve the army. We wanted to do this because the army is very important at the moment and it's very important to Abingdon. Nearly half the people that go to our school have a family member in the army. We were able to visit Dalton Barracks on Tuesday 18th October. We spoke to some soldiers, saw some equipment and we interviewed Regimental Sergeant Major David Wakefield. And we had a fantastic time! 😊

Firstly we met Warrant Officer Mark Sheath who told us about the Royal Logistics Corps. He was such a great informer. He told us that the R.L.C. soldiers are the people who deliver the soldiers' letters, meds, shelters and food; We get the right amount of food for the day's work and the right amount of kit. We keep the army working and moving and communicating. We can also help communities set up schools and dig wells.



The RLC work all over the world in all conditions. There also experts at helping protecting and advising. You'll find the RLC were ever you find the army. It's our job to get everything set up and to keep everything safe and make sure everything runs smoothly. The RLC is the largest corps in the army with over 16,000 soldiers and officers

working and operating in regiments of every type. We are proud and we look after each other. There are 1,600 soldiers. There are 720 families at Dalton Barracks. We have soldiers from all over the world Ghana, Jamaica and Nepal. We have lots of different cultures in our army which is a great thing and different from other country's armies.

THE HUGE TANKER!!



We heard a mighty engine and a huge vehicle arrived by us. This mighty tanker holds 20,000 litres of fuel or 18,000 litres of water. It is 15 metres long 3.5 metres high and 2.5 metres wide. We thought it was scary at first but when we got in it was fun! Also the tyres can be deflated from the cab so it can move more easily on muddy, snowy or

sandy terrain. The wheels were bigger than Jack!



There are usually 2 people driving and they can sleep in the cab on the bunks.

After we had seen the tanker we went into the Base Community Room and were introduced to what seemed to be an important man carrying a stick!



REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR DAVID WAKEFIELD

We asked the Regimental Sergeant Major what made him join the army. He told us that he had been in the army cadets as a youngster and he

wanted to travel. He didn't like school that much so he didn't have high qualifications to help him get a job which included a lot of travel so the army seemed like a good choice giving him the opportunities he wanted.

Next we asked him what he thinks are the best things about being in the army. He said he had the opportunity to travel the U.K. and the world. He really did not want a job which meant he stayed in one place.

After that we asked him what the worst things about being in the army were. He replied as life changes being away from your family is hard. So I enjoy the travel still but now it has another type of impact.

Then we asked him how Dalton barracks compares with other camps. Dalton barracks is well run down. The facilities here are quite good but they could be more modern. The investment has been more for refurbishing rather building new facilities. Tidworth and Bulford have been modernised and the facilities in those camps are modern and much better.

We wondered what the specific responsibilities of this camp are. He informed us logistics support for land army. There are three

Regiments and a whole Regiment at a time goes on active service. The army delivers vehicles, foods, water, shelter, armaments, clothing. They also deliver humanitarian aid the disaster areas.

After that we asked him to describe a typical working day on the camp. He told us every day is different. Whether here on camp or on an operational cycle. He is responsible for day to day discipline and may have to deal with incidents in the town. He deals with security and fire precautions.

By Caitlyn and Tamzin



We asked the regimental sergeant major, what were the most difficult things for his family with him in the army

He told us that the moving around is difficult. The army offers job

security but they are always moving. That's a lot of moving about! His son is now 3 years old and taking him to school is turning into more of an issue. More planning will be needed in the future. A lot of children are sent to boarding school to get a better education, not everyone would like their children to go to boarding school. We reporters wouldn't like to go to boarding school because we would miss our parents. He told us that if their children are in the middle of their SATs or GCSE's moving can be delayed. All the county council are helping with the schools places. You do know well when in advance when you are going away so you have time to plan childcare. His wife is a serving soldier. His son goes to crèche and grandparents do lots of "looking after duties". They both could be on active service together. We reporters think it would be really hard to have a family member in the ARMY, because you would be worrying about them getting injured or killed.

AWAY FROM HOME

David Wakefield said he enjoys the travel but he does miss his wife and kids. But he said every soldier will say something different though.

ENEMY TERRITORY

We thought it would be very horrible in the war zone. He told us that they get pretty well looked after when they are in enemy territory. There are lots of facilities when they are on active service and in bases too. There is access to the internet so it is now easier to communicate with those at home. There are shop cafes and lots more for the soldiers to feel more at home. 😊



They have good places for downtime. There is extra welfare available and people are there to help if there are problems.

The longer you are on the battlefield there are more facilities available. The first ones into an area probably have to sleep in landrovers, nothing other than ration packs to eat day and night. He also told us about the equipment needed on the battlefield. They get 30 pounds of body armour plus rations, weapons and a helmet. They needed to be very fit to carry large and heavy equipment. They

need a lot of training because of the weather changing so often. The soldiers need to carry more weight. The army also have armoured vehicles to protect them from IEDs.

INJURED ?

He said that he has never been injured himself but he has seen someone die - he got crushed by a tank. We reporters thought that would be really hard to deal with. He told us that training blocks out any emotions that he has. They do the training to take their mind off it. When someone you know is injured they have to wait until an airlift comes to rescue them. After that they get told what will be happening next. There is counselling available. There are army chaplains there are funerals services so the friends and family can pay respects and get comfort from our faith if that is important to us. The war isn't pretty for the soldiers but the soldiers are able to help each other. The soldiers don't always want to talk about their feelings. Mark talks to them because it's part of his job as an officer. He helps them to get over what they have seen or at least helps them to try to deal with their experiences.

We asked When your in the army you have to put your life at risk.

Was he scared? How did he make himself do such dangerous things?

He said that the whole world puts their lives at risk every day. Like crossing the road. He said that we don't worry about crossing the road so they don't worry about getting killed. We reporters understand that because they signed up to the job and they knew what was going to happen. (Still scary)

We asked him about the food. He told us that the food is the same in England. Breakfast, lunch and dinner. All the food is good. If they are out of the base they will get rations packs. These ration pack have lots of calories you would tear the top then eat the food. They can eat them cold or heat them up. There are lamb stews and all sorts of curries. They also get chocolate and sugary sweets for energy.



WHAT ABOUT THE GIRLS IN THE ARMY?

17 % of the army is female. Females do every job except from front line infantry. Apache helicopters are now flown by females and men women who are on the front line are medics police and dog handlers. They don't fight on the front line because their bodies are not strong enough to carry all the equipment. It was suggested that when a man and women are beside each other they think the man would stop fighting and help the women. As reporters we also think that the men would stop to help. We also think that they would want to stop to help men soldiers so if they can be trained to carry on then why couldn't they be trained to carry on if it was a woman.

By Lois and Lauren



SECURITY OF THE WORLD

We asked the Sergeant Major David Wakefield what he thought is the most effective weapon and why. The Sergeant Major thought that the most effective weapon was their eyeballs! Being able to see everything is a very powerful weapon, seeing everything in the air protects civilians and even the Army. The most effective weapon for the enemy is the IED. An IED is a very powerful bomb it can destroy a million pound 60 ton tank, and of course, people. These devices to make are very cheap about £30.

We asked him how it felt having the responsibility for security for the country. He said they don't think of responsibility it is not something they think about often... they are just serving the country. They feel more appreciated now than years gone by. Then news is positive and people are aware of what the army are doing. The "welcome home" we receive when they a duty is an honour too. Soldiers are respected and remembered for their country.



These reporters think that they are doing great 😊 also we think that they are always fighting for our country.

MOVING RANKS

We asked why they have to move from camp to camp. He replied in the army they do a thing called “Trickle Posting” trickle posting is when you is when you move from camp to camp. These last from 3 years after that they move on. It’s like a promotion that makes the army people move. A “Dream List” is a list of countries where you would like to go. The army doesn’t always let you go where ever you like. You have to ask to go somewhere for example Germany but you might get sent somewhere else in Europe. The British army have what soldiers want so they do attempt to listen.

We inquired what the good and bad things about higher rank are. He said the more responsibility the more soldiers to look after. It can be more enjoyable and better pay. The job is fantastic. The Regiment Sergeant Major said he could feel that his experience has been recognised. It took him 20 years to get to Regiment Sergeant Major. He was a driver of a 72 ton tank transporter. The army were trained to drive but

they can choose a specific trade. The Regiment Sergeant Major is the highest rank in Regiment he is a non-commissioned officer, he is looked on as a bit special. He knows things which overs don’t know about. He has the commanding officers ear. The commander is a commissioned officer.

Approximately 2% of soldiers become RSMs. He is a role model to soldiers and officers. It is a privilege and rather special.

We wondered, would he recommend others to join the army. He said that he would recommend somebody to join the army but it needs to be for the right reason. A prospective recruit needs to be wholeheartedly sure that it is what he or she wants. You have to sign up for a minimum of 4 years. The Army doesn’t want unhappy soldiers. His advice for anyone thinking of joining is to STUDY... Join the army as an officer not a regular soldier.

By Dene and Jack



B	A	R	R	A	C	K	S	C	W	P	U
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C	A	M	P	L	M	B	C	B	C	N	I
K	W	Y	P	E	R	Y	S	W	B	T	E
S	A	R	T	Q	A	R	I	Y	U	I	H

barracks	army	camp
tanker	Afghanistan	Iraq
sergeant	Ration packs	vehicle
weapon	equipment	armour
helmet	helicopters	medics

Instruction

Dot to Dot

1. Connect the dot
2. Name the vehicles

①



②



③



④



Answer

1. Challenger 3

2. Hercules 4

3. Oshkosh wheeled
tanker 1

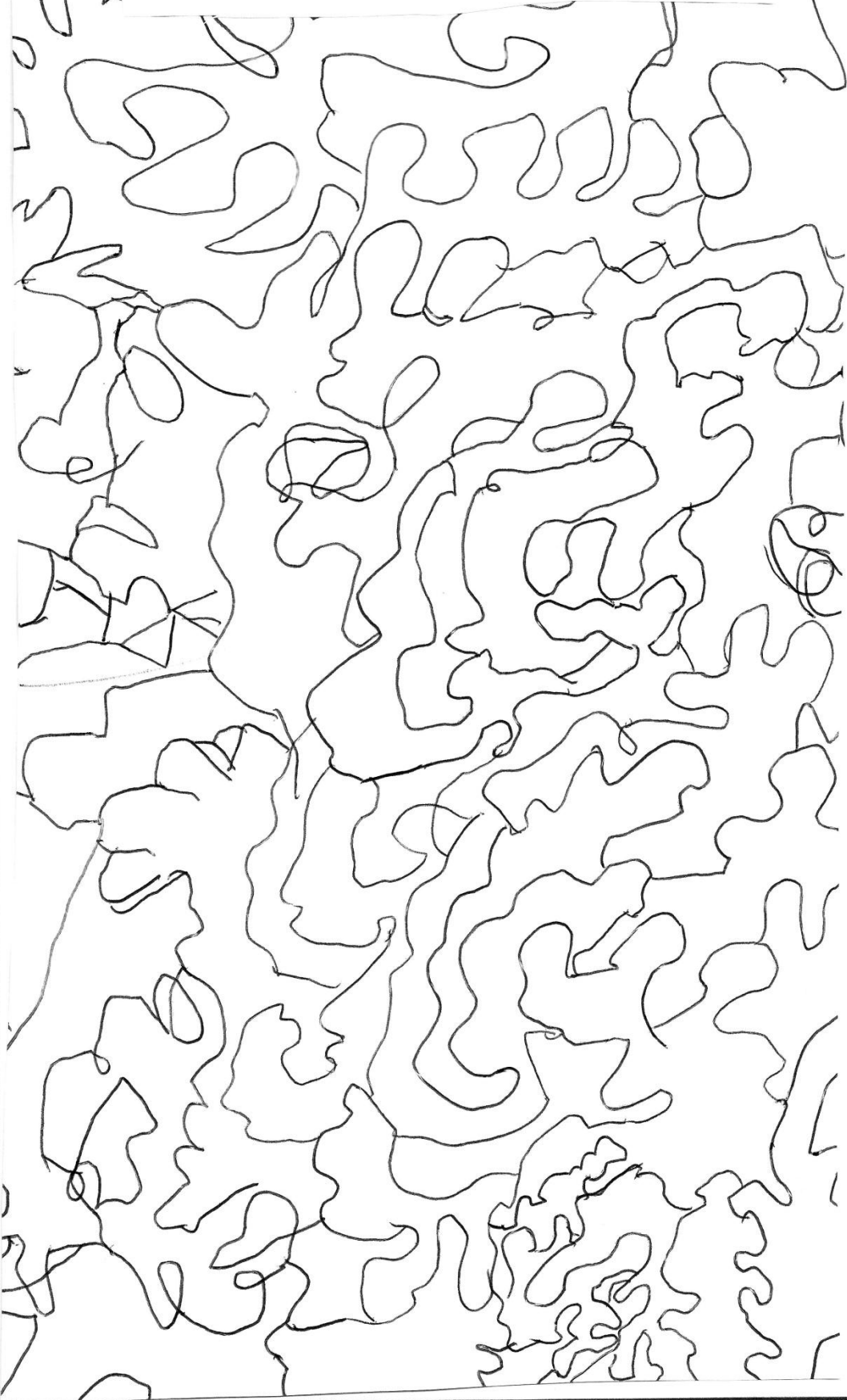
4. Lynx 2

By Jack

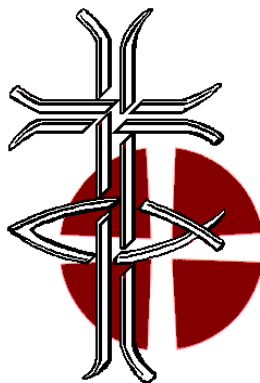
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C	M	R	R	P	P	L	E	N	D	S	R
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V	B	C	G	T	I	P	I	F	A	N	N
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I	N	I	E	I	Q	T	D	E	N	B	O
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N	T	A	T	A	B	A	N	K	R	O	T
S	R	A	T	N	B	A	T	T	L	E	E
I	R	A	W	C	A	R	S	N	A	R	R

EYEBALL	WAR	TALIBAN
TANK	RADAR	BATTLE
BOMB	BRITAIN	HERCULES
REGIMENT	TECHNOLOGY	TRANSPORTER
SHIPPON	OBSERVANT	POPPY
CIVILIANS	IED	HELMET

COLOUR THE CAMOUFLAGE



An initiative of
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