



## From the Head

Dear Parents  
 The last few days have been hectic and exciting: robots, bridges, rockets and sound experiments in the swimming pool on Science Day; a visit from Jonathan Meres, the popular children's author; a keenly contested House Quiz and some wonderful class assemblies, including a performance by the Curwen brothers playing their electric guitars.

## Half Term Holiday

Monday 13 to Monday  
 20 February 2012  
 Inclusive.

Please note that the School is closed on **Monday 20 February.**

## Cricket Coach

Former England test cricketer James Ormond will be joining the Stockport Grammar School staff in the summer. Mr Ormond will become a part of the PE and Games department where he will coach and manage the cricket first XI and will also be actively involved in the sport in both the Lower School and Junior School.

James played twice for England, taking the wickets of Ricky Ponting and Rahul Dravid, and made 137 first class appearances for Leicestershire and Surrey,

winning three county championships in a 14-year career.

Pupils and staff alike are looking forward to James sharing his experience and expertise, which will be invaluable as part of the continued development of the sport across the school.

Mr T Fern



## Science Day

We began Science Day with an assembly taken by two Science Boffins. There were roars of laughter and excitement as a genie came out of a bottle and they made elephant's toothpaste. Dr Cosgrove from Manchester University talked to the children about cells in Café Scientifique. Their thirst for knowledge was evident in the excellent questions the children posed to her. "Year 3 made shadow puppets. We tested them with the lights off on the whiteboard. Then we went to

our science workshop themed on flying. We had a lot of fun blowing up balloons and letting them whizz around the room by deflating them. After lunch sixth formers told us a science story about a dragon and they did some breath-taking experiments. We liked the part when the fire changed colour and when the dragon appeared on the flag."

"Year 4 had to make a bridge which had to go across a river. We could make it out of K-Nex, spaghetti and marshmallows or rolled-up newspaper. The whole point of building the bridge was to see who could

fit the most toy cars on without the bridge breaking."

"Year 5 played musical instruments; the xylophone and chime bar made quite a small volume but the drums made quite a loud volume. The wooden instruments made a hollow sound and the metal instruments made quite a clatter. We each had a go on them all and we had to make up our own tunes."

Mrs Johnson talked to Y6 about the processes sports manufacturers use to develop a product that will give an athlete a sporting edge and how science can affect sports performance. In the pool pupils tested wetsuits, pyjamas and even Olympic swim suits for their streamlining properties. Others tested pieces of fabric to see which sport they would be most suited to, the most fun test being the strength test. They used a microscope to make observational drawings of the fabrics. "Learning about the different materials that are used to make sports clothing was really interesting."

"The rocket launch was for the whole school. It took

place on the field and a rocket went high into the sky and came down with a parachute into someone's garden!"

From Nursery to Year 6, there was a great buzz around school. Infant activities included constructing rainmakers and a papier mache Earth, making rockets in alien science and constructing robots from recycled materials.

The events of the day demonstrated how varied, interesting and fun real science can be. Please take a few moments to take a look at the wonderful display in the corridor outside Classroom 1.

Thank you very much to our visitors: The Science Boffins, Mrs Johnson & Dr Cosgrove.

By Mrs Hurst & Mr Johnson  
 Libby & Kia, Y3,  
 Ruby, Hanuf, Rosie & Ali, Y4  
 Thomas L, Y5  
 Jacob, Y6



### Jonathan Meres

On Wednesday 1 February an author called Jonathan Meres came into school to see Years 3 to 6. He writes books for children and young adults. At first he told funny jokes and read some funny poems. Then he talked about his new book. I really enjoyed the talk and I got one of his books for him to sign.

Darcy Entwistle

Jonathan Meres has written several famous children's books. He tours schools and reads his books to children. He likes to use funny voices and make children laugh. He even likes to tease the teachers.

Maddy Lear

The 'World of Norm' is a very, very, very funny story



about a boy who dreams he goes to the supermarket naked. I can't wait to read it properly.

Charlie Hallows

Jonathan Meres came in to talk about his new series The World of Norm. He kept on singing "I'm begging you for Mercer" and making jokes about Mrs Mercer because he had a secret crush on her. After he read us a chapter of May Cause Irritation he said we would get our books signed. We are all looking forward to reading his books.

Toby Jones & Sophie Douglas

### House Quiz

The First ever Junior School House Quiz Grand Final took place on Monday 30 January. Over 100 Pupils from across the Junior School completed the House Quiz and 32 pupils were selected to compete in the Grand Final in front of the whole Junior School, University Challenge style.

The competition consisted of three categories: general knowledge, Stockport Grammar School and Sport. All correct answers counted towards the final total.

Years 3 and 4 went first and tackled some tough questions from no-nonsense question master, Mr Johnson. After that it was the turn of Years 5 and 6 who finished their competition with a sporting challenge.

When all the correct answers were added up Warren were declared the winners and the House Captains, Kitty Taylor and Harley Dace received the House Shield from Mr Fairclough.

Well done to all who took part and I look forward to setting new questions for next year.



### SPA Quiz Night

Mr Wallington has his head in the encyclopaedia again, which can mean only one thing - the annual SPA Quiz Night is looming! This year's Quiz Night will take place on Friday 24 February at 7:30pm prompt. Teams of 6 people are invited. Tickets cost £5.00 per head for entry into the Quiz and include the traditional & popular Cheese Ploughman Platter. In between the rounds of Mr Wallington's high-level questions we will include the slightly dumbed down quick fire rounds we introduced last year, allowing the less academic amongst us to rebuild our esteem.

SPA

### Clusical, the Musical

Year 6 production coming soon. Look out for more details after the half term holiday.

### Results

#### Football

- U11A v. Birkenhead 0-5 lost
  - U11B v. Birkenhead 3-2 won
  - U9A v. Altrincham 0-3 lost
  - U9B v. Altrincham 0-5 lost
  - U9C v. Altrincham 0-1 lost
  - U9D v. Altrincham 5-0 won
  - U9E v. Altrincham 0-6 lost
- Netball*
- U10A v. MHSG 8-4 won
  - U10B v. MHSG 4-1 won
  - U10A v. King's Macclesfield 9-2 won
  - U10B v. King's Macclesfield 0-7 lost

### The Weeks Ahead

|                      |   |                                |                                     |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Monday 6 February    | Charities Week<br>Robinwood departure<br>Football v. Vale View (H)  | Year 5<br>U11A & B             | 8.30 a.m.<br>3.30—4.30 p.m.         |
| Tuesday 7 February   |   |                                |                                     |
| Wednesday 8 February | Football (Metro Cup) (H)<br>Robinwood return  |                                | 4.00—5.00 p.m.<br>approx. 6.30 p.m. |
| Thursday 9 February  | Visit to St. George's Church<br>Netball v. Birkenhead (H)<br>Football v. Birkenhead (H)                                     | Year 2<br>U10A & B<br>U10A & B | 2.30—3.45 p.m.<br>2.30—3.45 p.m.    |
| Friday 10 February   | Football v. St. Bede's (H)<br><b>Break up for Half Term</b><br><b>Spring Term recommences</b><br><b>Tuesday 21 February</b> | U11A & B                       | K.O. 2.00 p.m.<br><b>3.30 p.m.</b>  |

|                       |   |  |  |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|
| Sunday 19 February    | <b>London Music Trip Departs</b>                        |  |  |
| Monday 20 February    | <b>School Closed</b>                                    | <b>Music Trip Returns</b>  |  |
| Tuesday 21 February   | <b>Spring Term recommences</b>                          |  |  |
| Wednesday 22 February | Young Enterprise<br>Netball v. King's Macclesfield (H)  | Year 6<br>U11A, B & C  | 3.30—5.15 p.m.                                       |
| Thursday 23 February  | Netball v. The Grange (A)<br>Football v. The Grange (A) | U10A, B & C<br>U10A, B, C & D  | Pick up 4.30 p.m.<br>Pick up 4.30 p.m.               |
| Friday 24 February    | Football v. Lady Barn (H)                               | U11A, B & C  | K.O. 2.30 p.m.                                       |
| Saturday 25 February  | Cross Country at Woodbank Park                          | Years 3 & 4 Girls<br>Years 3 & 4 Boys<br>Years 5 & 6 Girls<br>Years 5 & 6 Boys | 10.30 a.m.<br>10.50 a.m.<br>11.10 a.m.<br>11.30 a.m. |

Please check the notice boards for the most up-to-date information. Times and fixtures can be subject to changes.