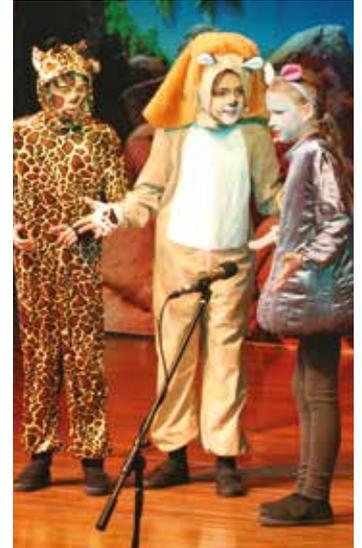


TAKING STOCK

Stockport Grammar
School Newsletter



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Summer 2018



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ARTS

BRIGHT MUSICAL FUTURE

A number of talented pupils have been invited to perform with prestigious national institutions.

Fourth Year pupil Joshua Furtado-Mendes has secured a place with the Junior Royal Academy of Music in London. Joshua is also a member of the National Youth Choir of Great Britain.

Joshua's role with the Junior Academy will see him travel to London every Saturday to study opera as a dramatic tenor. He will also join orchestras and chamber groups on violin and piano as well as studying composition and theory.

Fifth Year Pippa Brown and Fourth Year Natalie Bennett have been selected for the Hallé Youth Choir and Head Boy Sam Howard has been chosen to play double bass with the Hallé Youth Orchestra.

Musical sisters Talia and Clara Zelfhof successfully auditioned for the National Children's Orchestra of Great Britain, Second Year Talia on the oboe and Year 4 pupil Clara on the violin. Both girls have also been asked to join the Northerlies Regional Orchestra.



DANCERS DAZZLE WITH ALL THAT JAZZ

Girls and boys from First Year to the Upper Sixth pulled out all the stops to make this year's Dance Show a spectacular success.

From opening ballet number *Toot Toot Tootie Toot*, to the group performance set to *This Is Me* from recent cinema hit *The Greatest Showman*, that closed the show, pupils gave it their all.

Energetic number *Bang Bang*, choreographed by Sixth Formers Laura Welch and Jess Lloyd, gave members of the Lower School Tap Club chance to showcase their skills.

Entrance of the Swans was performed by Third Years who have been studying Matthew Bourne's version of *Swan Lake*.

The First and Second Year Dance Club's boundless energy throughout the show stopping *Do Your Thing* was followed by tap dancers Emily Butler, Tahlia Smith and Fiona Telfer who took the audience back in time with their retro number set to Robbie Williams's version of *Puttin' on the Ritz*.

Cam Wylie and Sophia Fanigliulo-Vlassis brought a Russian twist to proceedings with the jaunty *Volga Vouty* before the Beginner and Intermediate Contemporary Dance Club staged a delightful and moving piece to Alexandra Burke's *Hallelujah*.

The many group numbers were interspersed with solo performances from Sophia Fanigliulo Vlassis, Tayyib Shah, Cam Wylie, Emily Butler and Tahlia Smith.



ROALD DAHL'S BOOKS BROUGHT TO LIFE

Lower School pupils staged a vibrant and fun filled performance of their production *Witches, Twits and Other Hits: A Smorgasbord of Roald Dahl*.

Some of Roald Dahl's most loved books were brought to life in the production: *Fantastic Mr Fox*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *George's Marvellous Medicine*, *James and The Giant Peach*, *The Witches*, *The Twits* and *The BFG*.

The character of Matilda and her friends talked about each story and the message that Roald Dahl was teaching. Friendship, courage, karma, always having hope and never giving up were all themes highlighted to the audience. The production was created by Head of Drama, Mrs Alison Moffatt.



TENSION AND TRAGEDY ON STAGE

This year's Classics Play, Euripides' *Medea*, produced and directed by Head of Classics, Mr Alastair Thorley, brought packed out audiences face-to-face with the darkness of human nature.

As in previous years the cast was made up of Lower Sixth Form pupils. The cast worked as a seamless ensemble whilst also allowing their own individual talents to shine through.

Anishka Sooriah, who joined the school in the Sixth Form in September, impressed as the lead *Medea* while Mikey Gilmour, as her husband Jason, brought maturity and arrogance to the role to create a palpable tension.

Anishka said that being in the production was: "A completely different experience for me as I have only done musicals in the past. As I am new it has helped me to meet many more people."

SPRING CONCERT DELIGHTS APPRECIATIVE AUDIENCE

Choirs and orchestras relished performing in front of the beautifully lit stained glass window at St George's Church.

Junior Chamber Choir opened the show with *Sing On!* before String Orchestra played J S Bach's *Suite in D Major* and the lively *A British Folk Song Suite*.

Chorus sang Pergolesi's *Magnificat* with solo highlights from Beatrice Asquith (soprano), Niamh Johnson (alto), Joshua Furtado-Mendes (tenor) and Matthew Howling (bass).

Violinist Elsa Shah then captivated the audience with her moving performance with First Orchestra of

Svendsen's Romance for Violin and Orchestra.

Chamber Choir closed the show with *Highlights from Messiah* by Handel. Natalie Bennett (soprano) and Joshua Furtado-Mendes (tenor) both had the accolade of singing solos.

Pupils also got the chance to shine on stage at the Summer Concert which featured performances from the Second Orchestra, the Brass Ensemble, Vox, Senior Jazz Band, Junior Band, First Orchestra and the Big Band.



MUSICAL MAESTROS

The Junior Chamber Choir performed at the Heaton Mersey Youth Festival and received First Place in the Intermediate Choir category.

The first, *Sing On!* by Lane Johnson, featured solos from Olivia Dow, Ben Wood and Jonathan Hyde and highlighted the choir's even, lyrical sense of line. The second piece was the East African worship song, *Hakuna Mungu Kama Wewe* by Kirk Aamot.



EVENTS

BIOLOGISTS WIN BIG

Three of our Upper Sixth pupils were awarded medals in this year's British Biology Olympiad, a national competition which saw entries from more than 7,800 pupils from schools across the country.

Medals were awarded to the top third, with gold going to those in the top 6.7%. Well done to Vishal Krishnani for attaining gold, Meer Amin for achieving silver and Ishraq Choudhury for getting a bronze medal.



GETTING CLOSE TO THE ACTION

Fifth Year pupils enjoyed an immersive performance of *Macbeth* by FRED Theatre in the Main Hall.



YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS ARE AWARD WINNERS

Our Young Enterprise team, Electrade, were really happy to win the 'Best Presentation' award at the North West Final.

The award follows on from the 'Best Company Report' awards they won at the Stockport, Rochdale and Tameside heat and the Greater Manchester round.

CAREER ADVICE

Sixth Formers got an insight into the world of policy making, think tanks and the economy when Ed Cox, Director of the Institute for Public Policy Research North spoke at the final Shaa lecture of the academic year.

Mr Cox spoke about the challenges faced by the Northern economy and ways in which the area can be boosted. He also offered advice to anyone hoping to follow a similar career path to him.



AUTHOR VISITS INSPIRE

Crime writer Val McDermid spoke to pupils about how she comes up with ideas for her books, her journalistic background and how she deals with writing such gritty material.

Jo Welch, author of *The Einstein Code*, *The Darwin Code* and *Junior Code Cracker* gave pupils a run-down of the history of code-breaking as part of Lit Fest.

Author, film-maker and Everest summiteer Matt Dickinson gave an entertaining talk to First Year pupils about his career and his writing process. He then spoke to Third Year Geographers about how he adapted to the different landscapes he encountered.

Poet Paul Morris ran a workshop with pupils based around his piece *Beyond the Morning Sun* which explores the theme of loss through the eyes of a child. Pupils then wrote their own poems about loss.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CLIMBERS

The fourth round of The Climbing Hangar Liverpool's Winter Bouldering League saw four pupils grab positions on the podium.

Torin Mills finished top in the 'Under 14 Male' category whilst Emily Hull picked up third place in the 'Under 14 Female' event. James McCann was third in the 'Male Beginner' category and Chloe Almond finished in the same place in the 'Female Beginner' category.



BOOK LOVERS ATTEND AWARDS CEREMONY

Pupils from both the Senior and Junior School attended an exciting 'The Read 2018' awards ceremony full of inspirational presentations including a Samurai display and Ninja tests.

As part of the competition, pupils read a wide variety of books and voted for their favourite to win an award in either the 'Quick Reads' or 'The Big 5' category.

The event was hosted by Chris Bradford, last year's Quick Reads winner, who delivered a piece based around his *Young Samurai* series.

Author Mary Hooper, winner of the 'Quick Reads' category for her book *Ring Of Roses*, and 'The Big 5' victor and *What Not To Do If You Turn Invisible* writer Ross Welford were also in attendance.



FOUNDER'S DAY

Pupils, staff, governors and Old Stopfordians gathered at St George's Church to commemorate the foundation of the school by Sir Edmond Shaa, Lord Mayor of London and Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company, in 1487.

Choral performances by the school's musicians included a beautiful soprano solo by Sixth Former Olivia White in Stanford's *Magnificat in G*.

The Canon Dr Ralph Waller, Principal of Harris Manchester College and a Pro Vice Chancellor of the University of Oxford, delivered an engaging address on acts of kindness and encouragement.



BRILLIANT BAKERS

Fourth and Fifth Year pupils Katie Collier, Lydia Johnson, Phoebe Christodoulou and Emily Daniels were selected as the star bakers of this year's House Bake-off competition.

Each house had to work together as a team with two members given an hour to bake the cakes and another two members given an hour to complete the design work.

The judge was Old Stopfordian Emma Caine (OS 1995), owner of Heaton's Cakes and member of the British Sugarcraft Guild.



LOCAL YOUNG ARTISTS AMAZE AT ART COMPETITION

Now in its fifth year, the Year 5 Art Competition, sponsored by Brewin Dolphin, welcomed 119 entrants from 17 local primary schools.

Based around the theme of 'self-portrait', entries ranged in creative style and size with different media including 2D and 3D entries. Artists were invited to an exhibition evening to show their work to family and friends, take part in activities run by our Art department and discover the winners of the competition.

Fraser Wilson won the competition with an eye catching self-portrait with fantastic detail. The runners-up were Macey Howarth and Jocelyn Bromley.

ROYAL SEAL OF APPROVAL FOR OUR REAL TENNIS STARS

A quintet of pupils relished the opportunity to learn a new skill and showcase their talents in front of a member of the Royal Family, HRH Prince Edward The Earl of Wessex.

Beatrice Moore, Merryn Summersgill, Tristan Liddle, Alex Pollard and Yusra Nawaz attended coaching sessions at the Manchester Real Tennis and Racquet Club in Salford.

The sessions were organised by Old Stopfordian Tom Hegarty, a member of the club and father of a current pupil.

The group were invited to compete in a mini tournament. Amongst the spectators on the day was Prince Edward, a keen real tennis player, who is attempting to visit every real tennis club in the country during 2018. He watched part of the tournament before enjoying tea and cake with the pupils and their parents.



SCHOOL PLAYS HOST TO A SUCCESSFUL MUN CONFERENCE

Twelve schools from across the region came to school for a Model United Nations conference.

SGSMUN saw eight committees including Culture, Health, Security and Human Rights which covered a range of issues from the 'Iranian Nuclear Deal' to 'Right to Nationality'; 'Plastics in Oceans' to an 'Ageing Population'; and 'Self-driving Cars' to 'Decline in Vaccines'.

Mr Woollcombe of Zander Woollcombe Consulting, a campaign leader and strategy advisor, gave a talk at the conference. Mr Woollcombe has worked on political, communications and campaigns strategy for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Bono's ONE Campaign, Oxfam and Peace Child International.

Upper Sixth pupil and Secretary General Finley Nolan said: **"I joined the Model United Nations club in First Year, have been to about 16 conferences during my time in the Senior School and have always wanted to be the Secretary General. I would encourage anyone thinking about joining the club to do it. Don't worry about being scared of speaking, the experience and journey is good and will help you gain a lot of skills."**

Many thanks go to the SGSMUN team of Finley Nolan, Katy Brown, Murray Jallands, Millie Johnson, Richard Seed, Beatrice Asquith, Persephone Hotchkies, Katarina Sandall, Callum Oakes and Emma Crook.

OUT AND ABOUT

CHAMBER CHOIR PERFORM AT CAMBRIDGE

The Chamber Choir visited the University of Cambridge to sing Evensong with the Chapel Choir of Christ's College.

The Music Department has close links with Christ's College. Recent former pupil Simon Fraser is currently a member of the College Choir and is in the second year of a Music Degree at Cambridge and Director of Music Mr Michael Dow is an alumnus of the College.

Pupils performed Evensong by candlelight with the Chapel Choir in the beautiful setting of the college chapel. Upper Sixth pupil Olivia White sang a superb solo in Stanford's Magnificat in G and Simon Fraser took on the challenging bass solo in the *Nunc Dimittis* with gusto and aplomb. Pupils also got the chance to meet the University's Director of Music, Dr David Rowland, who gave them advice on the application process.



BIOLOGISTS BOOST THEIR SKILLS

Lower Sixth Biology pupils enjoyed listening and speaking to eminent scientists as they discussed a myriad of topics at A Level Science Live at The University of Manchester.

Speakers included leading research geneticist Professor Steve Jones; Professor Sophie Scott on neuroscience; Professor Adam Hart on natural diversity; and cell biologist Dr Jenny Rohn.

IVF treatment pioneer and well-known broadcaster Professor Robert Winston also spoke and pupil Megan King was delighted to have her question about genes answered by the distinguished scientist.

BUDDING SKIERS HIT THE BULGARIAN SLOPES

Sixty eight pupils descended on the slopes of Bansko in Bulgaria for an action-packed week of skiing and après-ski fun.

With a range of skiing abilities to cater for, Bansko was the perfect resort to help new skiers build their confidence whilst allowing the more experienced pupils to develop their skills and enjoy stretching their ability to their limits.

The groups worked on a variety of exercises relevant to their ability which resulted in the more experienced skiers going off piste and being introduced to moguls and jumps, whilst the newer skiers grew in skill, ending the week tackling their first ever black run, at which they excelled.

Sam Curwen said: **"I have really enjoyed this trip as I have been able to reach a level that I never thought was achievable for me, as at the start of the trip I was doing blue slopes and I have now been able to master the mighty black slope."**



ETHICAL DEBATE

Religious Studies pupils enjoyed their visit to Friends' Meeting House in Manchester for a Philosophy of Religion and Ethics masterclass.

Pupils listened to talks from Professor Keith Ward, Regius Professor Emeritus of Divinity at the University of Oxford; author Julie Arliss, St Peter's College, Oxford lecturer and tutor Dr Tim Mawson and experienced examiner Dr John Frye.



PORTUGUESE TOUR OFFERS INVALUABLE EXPERIENCE FOR RUGBY SQUAD

The U15 and U16 rugby players jetted off on a tour of Portugal to enjoy some challenging matches.

First port of call was the picturesque coastal resort town of Cascais where they walked along the seafront and trained on the beach. The next day, they faced two local teams, Belas and Sporting, securing wins in both games.

The boys then headed to Lisbon to explore the city before they took in a football match between Benfica and Estoril at the iconic Estádio da Luz.

The final day of the tour saw the squad face Belenenses where they got to pit their wits against their prestigious opponents in the settings of Agronomia RFC.



DIVING DELIGHT

Lanzarote was the destination for pupils who took part in a certified PADI diving course which allows them to dive anywhere in the world.

This was the school's first dedicated scuba diving trip and it was a resounding success which not only gave the pupils a qualification but provided them with memories to be treasured.

On the last day, the group were rewarded for all their hard work on their diving course with a celebratory barbeque where they were presented with their certificates and licences.

PSYCHOLOGISTS EXPERIENCE UNIVERSITY

Nine of our Lower Sixth Psychology pupils visited the Psychology Department at The University of Manchester for a 'University Experience Day'. The day consisted of a series of talks and seminars from five different psychologists on topics including forensic, social and clinical psychology as well as neuroscience.



FANTASTIC PHYSICS

Second Year Physics pupils visited the Museum of Science and Industry to get a close look at Major Tim Peake's Soyuz capsule.

The pupils also took part in two workshops: 'Seeing Sounds and Materials and Design', where they were tasked with designing a spacesuit.



ASTONISHING ART IN AMSTERDAM AND LIVERPOOL

Artists in Fourth and Fifth Year immersed themselves in Dutch culture as they visited the galleries of Amsterdam.

Pupils visited the Rijksmuseum, the Van Gogh Museum, the Stedelijk and the Moco Museum over three days. Whilst in the bustling city, they also had the opportunity to explore the canals and the flea markets.

The less famous Cobra Museum proved an excellent introduction to more abstract and conceptual ideas that were developing midway through the 20th century. Fifth Year artists also visited the Walker Art Gallery and Tate Liverpool where they were able to spend time drawing from the collections.



INSIGHTFUL TRIP TO CIVIL WAR CENTRE

Upper Sixth History pupils ventured to Newark to explore its richly packed National Civil War Centre.

As part of their A Level course, pupils learn all about the three English Civil Wars from 1642 to 1651 and the visit enabled them to see genuine weaponry, armour, coins and pamphlets.

Sixth Formers took part in a re-enactment of Charles I's trial, helping them to gain a deeper understanding of the outcome.



FRIENDSHIPS FORGED ON GERMAN EXCHANGE

Fifth Year linguists enjoyed an action-packed time in Bad Segeberg, north Germany, as they spent time with their exchange partners.

Pupils visited the Elbphilharmonie, a concert hall in the HafenCity quarter of Hamburg, and the Chocolate Museum. The weekend was spent with their respective host families where they improved their German conversational skills, visited local attractions and experienced local customs and cuisine. They also visited a waterpark.

Next up was a visit to the Miniature World, a walk through the Elbe Tunnel, and a trip to Phänomena, an illusion museum in Flensburg on the border with Denmark, followed by a spot of ice skating.

On the final day, they went back to the school with their partners to experience life in a German classroom, before walking around the Great Segeberger Lake.

Pupil Will Garrett said: **"Experiencing a different culture broadens your outlook on life and, for me, speaking German for a week was a highlight. The trip was a real success and gave us the chance to reinforce friendships that will hopefully last a lifetime."**

MARVELLOUS MOUNTAIN BIKING

Ambitious pupils relished the opportunity to take on an exhilarating cross country mountain bike loop starting from the Roman Lakes.

Tackling steep descents and challenging obstacles, the girls and boys were relieved, and rightly proud, when they crossed the finish line.



SCHOOL LIFE



NATIONAL CODING TRIUMPH

Pupils celebrated being crowned national coding champions twice over after winning both the Alan Turing Cryptography Competition and the National Cipher Challenge.

The Alan Turing Cryptography Competition is a national contest organised by the School of Mathematics at the University of Manchester.

Out of over 1,000 teams, the Stockport Grammar team, Pythag'R'Us, were crowned as winners after picking up the most points across the six chapters and the epilogue.

The National Cipher Challenge saw nine pupils from the Fifth Year and Sixth Form compete against 3,500 teams from across the country at the University of Southampton. The team, who called themselves Pythag'R'Back, bagged £1,000 for coming first.

The pupils, Sam Howard, Nathan Kingsley, Wolodymyr Krywonos, Callum Boyle, Lauryn Howard, Murray Jallands, Pippa Brown, Phoebe Micklefield and Alex Pollard, were presented with their award at Bletchley Park, the once top-secret home of the World War Two codebreakers.

MARVELLOUS MATHS

In school, pupils competed for the UK Maths Trust's Senior Maths Challenge. Gold certificate winners were Sam Howard, Nathan Kingsley, Wolodymyr Krywonos, Elsa Shah, Paar Singh, Alex Pollard, Ben Foster and Murray Jallands, who also received the award for best in school.

Eleven pupils qualified for the next round with Sam Howard gaining a distinction on the 'British Maths Olympiad' paper. This places him amongst the top 100 mathematicians in the country in his age group.

A number of our mathematicians were invited to enter the Mathematical Education on Merseyside Challenge, a national competition where pupils attempt problem solving questions and write up their solutions clearly and concisely.

Thirty four First and Second Year pupils entered the competition and prizes went to Adam Bellamy, Peter Walker and Jono Hawkins.

Twelve Third and Fourth Year pupils entered the Senior Challenge with prizes going to Ishan Sharma, Yicheng Xia and Harry Brown.

SPORT



RUGBY ROUND UP

Upper Sixth pupil Will Kay was selected for the Lambs U18 Tour of Croatia and Italy where he got to take part in four fixtures over 12 days and won the Discovery of Tour Award.

Bradley Boyd and Chester Bowden were selected for Cheshire RFU U15 when they faced Yorkshire; and Seb Walker and Zak Sebouai played for Sale Sharks Academy at the Wellington Festival.

Chester Bowden and Bradley Boyd represented Sale Sharks at the RFU North Academies U15 Festival at Sheffield Hallam University.



The U13 team returned victorious from a Sevens tournament held at AKS Lytham. The boys topped their group and then entered the cup competition during which they remained undefeated.

The U13s also won the Cheshire Sevens while the U14s performed well as they finished in a three way tie with St Ambrose College and Wirral Grammar School for Boys. They didn't win the tournament courtesy of the highest number of tries scored rule but they can be rightly proud of their performance.

At the prestigious Rosslyn Park tournament, the U13s won three of their four games while the U18s beat Amman Valley 38-31.

NETBALLERS ARE NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

The U13 Netball squad had cause for celebration after winning the Independent Schools National Cup final.

The girls beat Redmaids' High School 26-25 in an exhilarating and tense match at Redbridge Sports Centre in Essex.

Along the way, the girls enjoyed some thrilling victories including a 28-27 home win against St Catherine's School in the semi-final. In the first round, they beat The Grammar School at Leeds 28-21 and this was followed by a 27-26 victory over Haileybury School which secured their place in the quarter final. A massive 39-12 away victory over Emanuel School saw the girls sail through to the semis.

Special congratulations go to Captain Libby Bowden, who was praised for her exceptional leadership, and Freya Noble, who was crowned Most Valuable Player. The team was completed by Libby Goodman, Sage Jeffries, Darcy Breen, Libby Porter, Anna Wilkinson, Chloe Olajide, Rosie Lear, Aimee Reynolds and Annalisa Griffiths.

Our netballers also won the U13 Stockport Schools Tournament and the U12 County Netball Tournament.

POETRY PRIZES

Second Year German pupils tested their language skills during a reading competition where they had to recite the lyrics of the song Liebe deine Stadt (Love your city) which the German footballer Lukas Podolski recorded together with rapper Mo-Torres and the band Cat Ballou.

Sixth Formers Max Mather-Harding, Megan Barton and Maya Medagoda adjudicated.

The adjudicators were impressed by the good intonation and pronunciation of the contestants and awarded first prize to Joseph Eaton, second prize to Oliva Dow and third prize to Charlie Harrison.

SPANISH SOJOURN FOR TRAVEL WINNER FINLEY

Upper Sixth pupil Finley Nolan is looking forward to a trip to Spain after being chosen as the winner of this year's Albert Johnston Travel Award.

Every year the school awards a bursary to Sixth Formers who would like to travel to further their experience and knowledge of a passion or subject.

Finley will be travelling around Madrid and visiting a host of historic locations including the Museo de Historia de Madrid, Palacio Real, the Gran Via and the Alcazars of Toledo and Segovia, where he will be looking at architecture, art and history.



HOCKEY NATIONAL FINALISTS

Congratulations to the U13s who reached the National Finals after finishing as runners up at the North West round in Leeds.

The U12s were runners up in the Stockport Schools Tournament. The squad, captained by Isabella Woodside, won two of their three games. Darcy Breen, Jessica Jones, Chloe Smith and Isabella Woodside got the goals.

Exciting times are ahead for Yasmine Doyle, Emily Edwards, Amy Jack, Libby Porter, Talia Zelfhof, Lucy Stead, Darcy Breen, Chloe Smith, Rosie Lear, Amaya North and Anna Howard who have been selected for the Greater Manchester County Hockey U12, U13 and U14 teams after a number of trials.



AWESOME ATHLETES

Congratulations to all of our athletes who competed on behalf of Stockport in the Greater Manchester Cross Country event.

Outstanding performances came from Conor Fazakerley (Senior Boys), Georgia Fazakerley (Inter Girls), Finley Mayoh and Tom Manton (both Junior Boys) who came in the top 10 in their individual races.

Congratulations to Second Year pupils Finley Mayoh and Tom Manton who, after taking Gold and Bronze respectively in the individual competition of the Manchester Area Cross Country league, qualified to compete at County level for Greater Manchester in the inter-counties cross country championships in Loughborough.

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS



GRANDPARENTS SHARE LOVE OF READING

Infant and Early Years pupils loved having their grandparents in school as they joined them for a wonderful afternoon of reading and crafts.

The theme of the afternoon was 'favourite books' and grandads and grandmas shared their favourite novel or story before making bookmarks together.

INFANTS GO GREEN

Infant children were reminded of the importance of looking after our planet by recycling and environmental expert Mr Philip Hunton from Green up your Act.

Pre-Reception pupils tidied up litter on the playground and learnt not to pick up litter with their hands and Reception girls and boys worked as a team to build a Bug Hotel which is now open for business in the Junior School garden.

Year 1 decorated canvas bags with sea and fish images to remind them of the devastating environmental impact of using plastic bags whilst Year 2 became eco detectives and went round school looking for signs of how well the Junior School recycled.

They also interviewed various staff, including Headmaster Mr Wheeler who told them that he wants pupils and staff in the Junior School to help the environment even more by turning off lights and shutting doors.

IN FINE VOICE

Boys and girls joined approximately 5,500 children from across the region as they filled Manchester Arena with tuneful and triumphant songs at the annual Young Voices mass choir event.



CARNIVAL FEVER

Year 4 pupils created extravagant masks as part of their Humanities lesson on Rio de Janeiro. The boys and girls enjoyed parading around school in their colourful creations in homage to the annual Brazilian carnival.



MATHS CHALLENGE

Year 6 pupils ventured over to the Hallam Hall to take part in the annual Maths Challenge.

The budding mathematicians enjoyed the activity, which was organised by Senior School teacher Mr Cheslett, and it was a closely fought competition.

Warren finished top with 238 points. Nicholson (215) pipped Vernon (214) to second place and Arden were not far behind with 200 points.

WONDERFUL WEAVING

Year 1 pupils visited Quarry Bank Mill where they enjoyed a weaving workshop. The boys and girls practised on the carding brushes and had a go on the spinning wheel so that they could understand how the fleece on a sheep could be turned into clothes.



RECYCLED ART

Year 5 pupils spent a creative day in the Art room where they were given a workshop on making paper using recycled materials. They thoroughly enjoyed dipping their hands in pulp and paste and then having to use their feet and the weight of their own bodies to squeeze the water from their paper.

SCIENTIFIC STATES OF MATTER

Boys and girls in Year 4 took part in a number of workshops and craft sessions on a visit to The World Of Glass.

The trip was part of their Science topic on states of matter and they were told about how glass used to be made and explored the tunnels under the factory furnace. They also skilfully designed and colourfully painted their own glasses to take home.



WORLD BOOK DAY

Junior School pupils celebrated World Book Day by taking part in activities based on *The Tin Forest* by Helen Ward.

In Pre-Reception, pupils made animal faces from rice cakes, chocolate spread, bananas and blueberries, created a forest to enjoy story time in, made their own forests from Play-Doh, broccoli and pipe cleaners and painted pictures of animals. Infant pupils made tin forests to take home.

Older Junior School girls and boys wrote poems and played 'Guess the Shelfie' where teachers took pictures of their home bookcases and pupils had to guess who it belonged to.



PENS AT THE READY

Each year, BBC Radio 2 hold their 500 Words competition where children write engaging and captivating stories within the aforementioned word limit.

The school winners were Joshua Roberts (Year 6); Ella Martin (Year 5), Erin Roberts (Year 4) and Harry Stevenson (Year 3).



COMPUTER CONTROL

Year 6 pupils built robotic vehicles using Lego Mindstorms at a recent STEMworks workshop. Pupils were tasked with programming their robots to complete a series of increasingly difficult challenges. Each challenge built on the previous one and progressively introduced the use of sensors to provide feedback to control the robot.

During the day the pupils learnt about where computers are used and began to see how essential computer control has become to our lives.

CHARITY SPORTS

From the youngest to oldest, girls and boys all got involved in a variety of fun-packed energetic activities to help keep them fit and healthy whilst raising money for Sport Relief.

Pre-Reception put their glad rags and dancing shoes on and boogied the afternoon away with their 'Step Disco' whilst Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 were full of beans in their 'Wiggle and Jiggle Step Workout'.

Year 3 to Year 6 pupils used the House system to help spur themselves on to raise even more money by holding a number of House sporting events including basketball, sprinting, dodgeball and a penalty shootout.

Pupils then gave a final boost to the total by having a sporting themed non-uniform day.



YEAR 6 ENJOY WONDERFUL WARWICK

Sixty two enthusiastic pupils visited Warwick Castle and Cadbury World on an exciting residential visit.

At the castle, they braved the dungeons before exploring the beautiful grounds and maze as well as taking a look at the birds of prey that live on site. They enjoyed a production of *Shrek* before going to bed tired but happy.

The next day, the group travelled to Bournville to visit Cadbury World.

THE MAGIC OF MADAGASCAR

Year 6 staged an energetic and humorous musical production of *Madagascar* which features the larger than life characters from Central Park Zoo who, through a series of mishaps, end up marooned.

Stand out performances came from a number of pupils. Josh Roberts as King Julien had everyone moving to the beat and his deadpan side kick Maurice, played by Marcus Foster, brought in the laughs.

Molly Parnell as Marty the Zebra was able to showcase her amazing strength as a singer and, as Alex the Lion, Jameson Chatha gave a dynamic acting performance.

Jameson said: **"I absolutely loved the play. It was such an honour to play Alex the Lion."**

Molly added: **"I really enjoyed the show. It was hard work but it definitely was all worth it."**

The production of the show was a collaboration between Mrs Alison Sullivan and Mrs Ruth Cole.



POETRY IN MOTION

Pupils in Years 3 to 6 were treated to a dynamic and humorous performance by poet Matt Goodfellow. The themes of the poems included topics such as wanting to be a rock star and a dad trying to stay cool in his son's eyes.



ANIMAL INVESTIGATIONS

Pre-Reception pupils embraced their love of animals as they enjoyed a series of activities based on Elmer the Elephant.

Children received a letter from Elmer along with some number and phonic games. Then they got creative and helped to paint a life-size Elmer and a tiger before climbing aboard a makeshift 'jeep' to go on adventures, armed with maps, bags and binoculars.

PERFECT POETS

Head of the Senior Lower School, Mrs Helen Lawson, had a tough job judging the Junior School poetry competition following a host of excellent performances. The overall winner was Jenson Wilkinson who wrote his own poem, *Goodnight Soldier*, in tribute to his late grandfather. Jenson read the powerful poem at his grandad's funeral. Saara Gurjee and Sophia Krywonos also won prizes.

GOAL SCORING GIRLS

Congratulations to our U11 girls who won the inaugural AJIS football tournament with an impressive run of results.

The girls beat Bury Grammar School 3-0 and drew 0-0 against St Bede's College.



A strong team performance from Anna Porter, Charli Barnett, Nancy Dawkes, Niamh Bentley, Aryanah Latif, Sara Watson, Annabel Cooke, and Freya Niven saw SGS win 1-0 in the final game against Bridgewater School.

SUPER SAFARI

Year 3 pupils had an amazing day at Knowsley Safari Park where they learnt lots of facts about the animals. They discovered the funny terms used to name groups of animals, watched some very clever sea lions in the show, saw baby bats in the spooky bat house and had a session in the Discovery Centre.



TASTY FRACTIONS

Year 2 pupils enjoyed their practical Maths lesson where they learnt about fractions via the medium of jam sandwiches. The children made their own sandwiches, cutting them into halves and then quarters. They learnt about mixed numbers and how to write them before devouring their work.



ELASTIC BAND

Year 4 pupils have been investigating pitch in Science as part of their topic on sound.

Using cardboard boxes and elastic bands to make instruments with high and low notes, the group discovered that high pitched notes were made by shorter, thinner and tighter bands and lower pitched notes were made by elastic bands which were thicker, looser and longer.

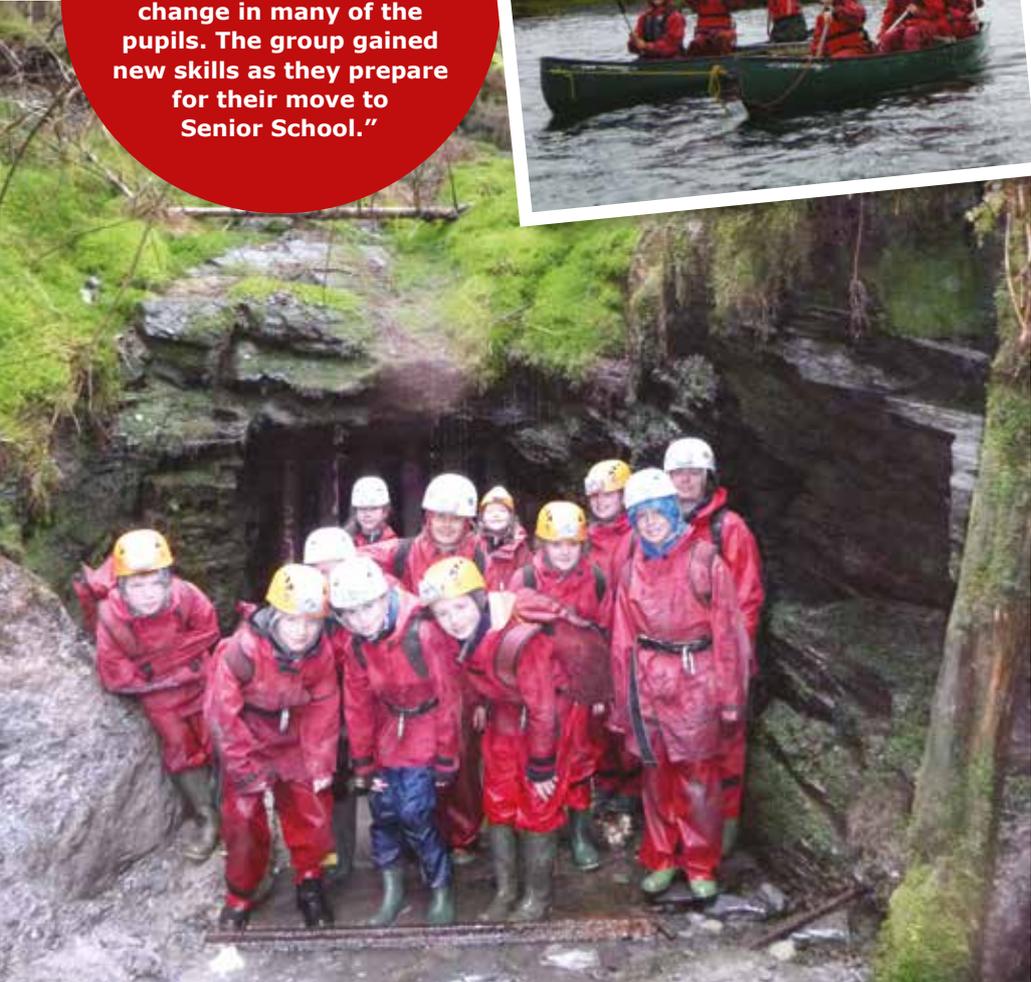
WONDERFUL WALES

Year 6 pupils had a fantastic time on their three-day residential trip to the Arete Outdoor Education Centre near Caernarfon in North Wales.

The girls and boys wasted no time on arrival and got stuck into canoeing and rafting in the Menai Straights before enjoying a walk on the sea front where they caught a glimpse of Caernarfon Castle.

Over the next few days, the pupils tried their hand at gorge walking and sea level traversing as well as going down a mine shaft. They were also taught how to light a fire before toasting marshmallows over the flames.

Mr Adam Hughes, the school's Outdoor Education Co-ordinator, said: **"It was a great few days and I saw a real change in many of the pupils. The group gained new skills as they prepare for their move to Senior School."**



STEM DAY ROBOTS BRING COMPUTERS TO LIFE

Early Years and Key Stage One pupils learnt about robots, programming and computing thanks to a visit from Mrs Helen Saunders, Strategic Communications Manager at Cisco Systems.

Early Years pupils were asked to get creative and design robots using a range of craft materials including colouring pencils and stickers before driving the robots around the 'arena' with a controller.

Key Stage One boys and girls looked at programming, how it helped the robots move and how much we use computers in our everyday lives.



The children enjoyed moving the robots around the hall and also watched a presentation and video which created discussion around artificial intelligence and what jobs might be like in the future.

Year 2 pupil Joshua Hughes said: **"I liked learning about the drones and that they have cameras on them"**, whilst Year 1 pupil Abigail Snarr commented: **"I liked learning that there's going to be more robots than humans when I'm older!"**

Lara Sykes in Pre-Reception enjoyed getting creative: **"I liked sticking the stickers on the robots and colouring in"**, and Reception pupil Susie Yang agreed: **"I liked it when we decorated the robots."**