

TAKING / STOCK

Stockport Grammar
School Newsletter



Issue 64
Autumn/Winter 2016/17



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SPORTS

PUPILS IMPRESS OLYMPIC ATHLETE AT SPORTS DAY

Old Stopfordian and Team GB athlete Ross Millington made a return visit to school to hand out prizes on Sports Day.

Competitors from First to Fourth Year took part in a range of events including long jump, javelin and discus as well as a number of sprint contests.

The winner of the T.J. Anderson Trophy (awarded to the House that has accrued the most points) was Warren who also won the Athletics Challenge Bowl.



FIRST XV CLAIM RESOUNDING VICTORY AGAINST OLD STOPS

Our First XV beat a team of Old Stops 59-5 in their annual match. There were tries from Tom Travis, Jacob Sanchez-Capuchino, Sam Carr and George Chatterton with conversions from Pat Chatterton.

WELCOME BOOST FOR RUGBY TEAMS

Our rugby boys were delighted to take part in a Coaching Master Class at the AJ Bell Stadium.

The session was delivered by a mixture of Sale Sharks and England Rugby professional staff and the pupils stayed to watch the Georgia v Italy World Rugby U20s Championship match.

Pupils also benefited from a visit from England Rugby Schools coaches who were taking part in the first of their Teacher Development Days.

The coaches put pupils and staff through their paces on the school field.



BRONZE MEDALS FOR OUR INTERNATIONAL HOCKEY GIRLS

Upper Sixth pupils Lily Wolstenholme and Lauren Hunt were part of the England U18 Hockey team that secured third place at the European Youth Championships held in Ireland in July.

The team beat Ireland and Russia – with Lily scoring in each game – in the group stages and lost to Germany before Holland beat them in the semi-final.

The girls went on to face Belgium in the third place play-off match. The game ended 1-1 but England were victorious after a penalty shootout during which Lily scored.

A delighted Lily has now been invited to train with the England U21 development squad.



EVENTS

BUCKINGHAM PALACE VISIT HONOURS DUKE OF EDINBURGH WINNERS

Headmaster Mr Chicken, DoFE co-ordinator Mr Pownall and former pupils Gabriella Watkins and William Sheard were invited to Buckingham Palace for a special event celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Duke of Edinburgh Award. More than 1,000 young people attended for the biggest ever gathering of Gold Award winners.

Prince Philip and the Earl and Countess of Wessex presented the awards and Gabriella and William, who worked towards their Gold Awards whilst still at school, both received their certificates.

Mr Chicken said: **“It was an enjoyable celebration of the award’s success in inspiring generations of young people to set themselves challenging goals and develop the independence and skills required to meet them.”**

Stockport Grammar currently has 298 enrolments across all levels for the DoFE Award. The school is a licensed organisation for the award and Mr Chicken and Mr Pownall were presented with a special plaque by Ms Roz Savage MBE; in return they had been invited to present the school’s crest for display. Ms Savage holds four world records for ocean rowing, including first woman to row three oceans.



DEUTSCHLAND DEBATE

The annual Fourth Year German debate saw its usual high standard of entries. The five teams involved showed impressive linguistic and debating skills as they discussed the advantages and disadvantages of a school uniform, a longer school day and holidays abroad.

Megan King and Nathan Eckersley faced Edie Clarke-Hemmings and Maya Bagshaw in the final where they had to debate an unseen title - **“Everyone should learn a foreign language”**. Megan and Nathan emerged victorious to take home the crown.

Honourable mentions should also go to the other participants: Megan Barton and Maya Medagoda, Gabe Stewart and Alex Billingham and Haris Riaz and Jakub Goscimski.

RAISING AWARENESS OF THE DANGERS OF DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Local not-for-profit organisation Mosaic delivered an interesting talk to Third and Fourth Year pupils about drug and alcohol awareness.

The talk covered a myriad of issues including the problems that arise from substance abuse and the rise and dangers of psychoactive substances.

LOOKING FORWARD TO UNIVERSITY

Lower Sixth pupils attended a two day UCAS Higher Education conference at the school to help them with the application process for university.

A series of talks, workshops and seminars led by our partners at leading universities, school staff and recent Old Stopfordians were organised to sharpen the pupils’ focus on the university application process.

This provided them with all of the information they need to make these challenging decisions with confidence and to identify where within school and outside they can get the help they need to ensure they have every possible chance of securing their first choice university place.



POETRY PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Third Year French pupils put their pronunciation and memory skills to the test when they took part in a French poetry reciting competition.



Pupils in every class in the year were given a choice of three poems which they had to practise and deliver in front of their French teachers and classmates.

The two best pupils from each form then went forward to a Year group competition, from which Matthew Williams, Ellie Carter and Sonu Thomas emerged as winners.

Ellie and Will Garrett then volunteered to represent the school at the A.L.L. Poetry Out Loud regional final.



DEBATERS SHOWCASE THEIR CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS

Child Marriage, the Zika Virus, Cyber Terrorism and the Environmental Consequences of War were on the agenda for pupils attending the Model United Nations (MUN) conference.

Pupils represented Egypt, Iran and India in the discussions and the group included some First Year pupils who hadn't been to an MUN conference before through to Lower Sixth pupils who had more experience.

The group performed really well throughout the one day event and a number of them were commended for their debates.

Successes included Jacob Lockett, who was awarded Outstanding for representing Iran in the Human Rights Committee, and Murray Jallands, who was awarded Outstanding for representing Iran on the Disarmament Committee.

Nathan Eckersley was Highly Commended for representing Iran in Cybersci Committee, Oliver Sheard was Highly Commended for representing Egypt in the Security Council and Emily Noble was Highly Commended for representing India in the Human Rights Committee.

The delegation representing Iran were also Highly Commended for their performance throughout the day.

Psychology teacher Mr Nigel Browne accompanied the pupils to the conference and he was pleased with how the event went: **"We hope that the success and enjoyment of the day will continue next year and that many of these pupils will be representing the school at the next MUN conference in October."**

READ ALL ABOUT IT

Book loving pupils were spoilt for choice with two author visits and an awards ceremony to enjoy.

Local author Jo Welch, from Heaton Moor, spoke to pupils about how she got into her profession and what it takes to become a writer before she gave attendees an in-depth look into her book *The Einstein Code*.

Jo is a big fan of Science and the pupils found it really interesting to see how she works codes and puzzles into her books.

Author and illustrator Curtis Jobling, who designed *Bob the Builder* and created kids TV show *Raa Raa the Noisy Lion*, also visited the school to tell pupils how he devises his characters.

Curtis also screened a few episodes of *Curious Cow*, an animation series he created for Nickelodeon UK, as well as talking about other publications he has been working on – namely the *Wereworld Books* and the *World of Warriors* collection.

Finally, 10 First and Second Year pupils attended 'The Read' Stockport Schools Book Award ceremony.

The ceremony was presented by novelist Cathy Cassidy and another writer who has visited the school this year, Kim Slater, won the main award for her book *Smart*.



MARVELLOUS MATHS

Over 150 children from 24 visiting schools took part in the annual Year 5 Maths Challenge in the Hallam Hall.

In the morning session, Park Road Primary came out on top while in the afternoon, Altrincham Preparatory School were the winners.

In the afternoon session Altrincham Preparatory School Team 1 beat Altrincham Preparatory School Team 2 and Prospect Vale Primary School to finish as winners.



SPEECH DAY CELEBRATIONS

TV presenter Liz Bonnin was the guest speaker at this year's Speech Day at the Stockport Plaza.

Liz, who has fronted programmes including *Bang Goes the Theory*, *Countrywise*, *Stargazing Live* and *Operation Snow Tiger*, presented prizes to pupils who had excelled in various subjects and activities throughout the school year.

She then gave a speech to the packed theatre, which was full of pupils, teachers, parents and governors. She encouraged the boys and girls to strive for a career that they would enjoy as this is a great way for each and every one of them to reach their full potential.

Liz, who studied Biochemistry at university and has a Masters in Wild Animal Biology, was clearly impressed with the pupils' effort and dedication stating that she "was so inspired by the children and their achievements".

Speech Day opened with an address from the Chairman of the Governing Body, Mr Dunn, before the Big Band performed *Ain't Misbehavin'* by Waller & Brooks and Arlen & Koehler's *Stormy Weather*.

Headmaster Mr Chicken gave his review of the year, speaking of the continued significance of the school's Founder Sir Edmund Shaa and of the school's long history from 1487, with the centenary this year of the move to the Hallam site.

During the awards presentation, the Prime Warden of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, Mr Wainwright, continued the custom of presenting medals to the Head Boy, Charles Longson, and Head Girl, Ella Burton.

Following the prize giving and Liz's address, the President of the Old Stopfordians' Association, Mr Garrett, gave his vote of thanks before proceedings were concluded with the National Anthem.



HALLAM HALL IS ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Talented pupils staged a superb spectacle as they took part in this year's Music Festival.

The contest, which was judged by Nick Parrans-Smith, Director of Music at Lichfield Cathedral School, saw excellent solo and ensemble performances from pupils on a variety of instruments including the piano, the euphonium and the double bass.

The event, played out in front of a captivated audience of governors, teachers, pupils and parents, displayed the breadth of talent within the school and demonstrated the excellent work the Music department have put in with the pupils.

The winners were - First Year instrumental: Daniel Vincent (euphonium); Second Year instrumental: Zoe Shah (violin), Commended - Kanei Nishii (piano); Third Year instrumental: Pippa Brown (alto saxophone); Junior vocal: Phoebe Roberts; Junior ensemble: Joshua Furtado-Mendes (violin) and Kanei Nishii (piano); Fourth and Fifth Year vocal: Niamh Johnson; Fourth and Fifth Year instrumental Jess Lloyd (flute), Commended - Elsa Shah (violin); Sixth Form vocal: James Holt; Sixth Form instrumental: Alex Jones (double bass), Commended - Simon Fraser (oboe); Senior ensemble: Simon Fraser (oboe) and Alex Jones (double bass); Wind and brass cup: Simon Fraser (oboe); String cup: Alex Jones (double bass); Pianoforte cup: Kanei Nishii (piano); Flute trophy: Jo Brown (flute); Most promising Lower School musician: Pippa Brown (alto saxophone); Adjudicator's Cup - Alex Jones (double bass).

OUT AND ABOUT

PSYCHOLOGISTS GO TO THE ZOO

Lower Sixth Psychology students visited Chester Zoo as part of their A-Level studies.

They attended an interactive workshop on courtship behaviour and the evolution of intelligence before observing primate behaviour at close quarters.



GEOGRAPHY PUPILS ENJOY STUNNING SCENERY IN ICELAND

Pupils had the chance to explore Europe's most sparsely populated country, which is volcanically and geologically active.

The first full day of the trip saw the travellers visit Hellisheidi Geothermal Power Station, the Golden Circle and the Blue Lagoon.

Next up was a journey to Heimaey in the Westman Isles. The land is the largest and most populated island off the Icelandic coast and in 1973 lava flow from the nearby Eldfell volcano destroyed half the town. A visit to Hekla, one of Iceland's most active volcanoes, rounded off the day.

During the trip, pupils also had a look around Reykjavik harbour, where they had their picture taken with Jón Gunnar Árnason's sculpture Sun Voyager and went ice walking on Solheimajokull glacier.

EXPLORING MANCHESTER'S HISTORY

Fourth Year Religious Studies pupils spent a day in Manchester recently visiting Manchester Cathedral, Audacious Church and The John Rylands Library.

At Manchester Cathedral pupils looked at the role of the church in public life whilst preparations for a remembrance service for the Battle of the Somme were underway.

In the John Rylands Library pupils saw some of the collection's treasures including the oldest fragment of the New Testament and Shakespeare's portfolio of plays. They also got to go behind the scenes to the Bible Room – a room with thousands of bibles.



LEARNING SURVIVAL SKILLS

A group of adventurous Third Year pupils travelled deep into the Cheshire countryside to take part in an interactive Bushcraft weekend.

The three day excursion to Cholmondeley saw the boys and girls learn about shelters, fires, first aid and other important aspects of survival in the wild.

Pupils were tasked with building their own shelters and they also had to put their newfound first aid skills to the test when they were asked to deal with 'injuries' during a staged plane crash. Their final activity saw them learn how to make traps to catch different types of animals.

Felix had a great time at the Bushcraft weekend. He said: **"It was a hugely enjoyable experience and quite different to any trips I have been on before. There was a great atmosphere on the camp all weekend and there was a great sense of involvement amongst the leaders and the pupils. It was fun sleeping out under the summer night sky and definitely a very worthwhile and fun experience."**

ARTISTIC INSPIRATION

A group of 28 pupils from the Fourth and Lower Sixth years visited Yorkshire Sculpture Park to gather ideas for their GCSE and A-level portfolios.

The group enjoyed a workshop led by one of the park's guides and a lecturer from the Leeds School of Art who introduced them to ways of thinking about the work as well as leading them through drawing and clay sculpting exercises.

The second part of the day gave the group the opportunity to explore the 500 acre site, drawing the sculptures that are set throughout the landscape.

Mr Davies, Head of Art, Design and Technology, said: **"The opportunity to work from such a fantastic collection is wonderfully beneficial for our pupils. Sculpture, in particular, questions our ideas of how art can be presented as it exists in three dimensions and changes as we move around it. The workshop was helpful in encouraging the group to engage and think about quite complex ideas."**

NASA TRIP IS OUT OF THIS WORLD

Pupils gained an in-depth insight into space exploration as they enjoyed an unforgettable trip to America over the summer holidays.

The group took part in an astronaut training programme at NASA, culminating in a simulated shuttle mission from take-off to landing. They enjoyed a Physics lesson on freefall and terminal velocity during which they had the opportunity to experience a wind tunnel.

At the Kennedy Space Centre, pupils visited the Atlantis exhibition where they learnt about the history of shuttle development before spending the afternoon with astronaut Ken Cameron who shared anecdotes of his time in space.

They took a tour of the assembly building and launch pads as well as the Saturn V rocket exhibition.

As well as visiting a host of educational sites, pupils were able to have fun at Universal Studios, relax at Cocoa Beach, shop at the famous Florida Mall and see alligators of all shapes and sizes at Gatorland.

Sixth Former Emily Howling said:

"It's hard to capture the scale and wonder of the place. As soon as we walked in, we were met by a garden of seven full-scale rockets from the early manned missions and the missions that put some of the first satellites into space."





FASCINATING PHYSICS

Lower Sixth Physics pupils travelled to Switzerland to visit CERN, the European Organisation for Nuclear Research.

Pupils were taken on a tour of the Geneva-based laboratory where they learnt about how the Large Hadron Collider works, how they detect particles and about discoveries in particle physics and what we hope to learn next.

The group then had a look around the newly upgraded interactive Microcosm exhibit before sitting down for lunch in the CERN cafeteria surrounded by scientists and school parties from all over the world.

Next up was a visit to the Globe exhibition where Head of Physics Mrs Fenton had set up a fact finding mission for the pupils.

The next day the group headed to the United Nations for a fascinating tour and explanation of what the UN is and what it does and they even got to witness a human rights conference from the gallery.

Sixth Former Fergus Ustianowski said:

“One of the most interesting parts of the CERN tour was the control room where all of the data from the accelerator was displayed on huge projections on the wall.

“We were also able to explore Geneva itself for a few hours and we ate lots of fondue at a traditional restaurant where everything was very Swiss including a big horn which we could all have a go at blowing.

“We visited the UN building where we had a tour and actually got to listen in on a human rights debate about the Crimean conflict. Lunch was in the posh UN canteen with the people who work within the UN which was exciting.”

EXCITING OUTDOOR OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUPILS

Pupils can embrace a host of extra activities outside the classroom thanks to the arrival of our new Outdoor Education Co-ordinator Adam Hughes.

Mr Hughes’ role is to develop and enhance the outdoor activities available at the school and he is currently working on introducing kayaking sessions and organising foreign trips for keen climbers.

He is also looking to organise a winter mountaineering expedition to Scotland as well as establishing a winter sports club to improve pupils’ skiing and snowboarding skills.

He said: **“In addition to improving the sports and activities already provided by the school, I want to offer a pathway for students to develop and progress within their chosen interest.”**

Pupils who completed the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award at the end of last term were able to take part in exciting activities such as sea kayaking in Wales and our Sixth Form pupils are looking forward to an expedition to Borneo in June 2017.

ACTION PACKED ADVENTURE TRIP

Second Year pupils visited Grasmere over the summer break for four days of climbing, hiking and kayaking.

Pupils stayed in the Butharlyp Howe Youth Hostel and enjoyed walks to the waterfalls at Easedale Tarn before heading to Alcock Tarn, Loughrigg Terrace and then on to Grasmere.

The group hiked up to Stone Arthur, then up to Great Rigg and Heron Pike before descending to Fairfield and Alcock Tarn. This route saw pupils cover more than seven miles and climb 3,000ft.

On their final walking expedition, pupils covered a route that took in Langdale, New Dungeon Ghyll, Loft Crag, Pike o Stickle, Stickle Tarn, New Dungeon Ghyll, Stickle Ghyll, Stickle Tarn, Pavey Ark, Harrison Stickle, Loft Crag and New Dungeon Ghyll.

As well as walking and hiking, pupils enjoyed sailing and kayaking on Derwentwater and ghyll scrambling in Stoneycroft Ghyll.

This year’s trip saw the group do more climbing than usual with some of the more experienced pupils learning how to lead a group with expert tuition from instructors at Keswick Mountain Adventures.



SCHOOL LIFE



BUDDING CHEFS SHOWCASE THEIR CULINARY PROWESS

Pupils demonstrated their creative cooking skills as they took part in the final of the school’s MasterChef competition.

Nine pupils competed in the final after making it through the heats and it was Second Year pupil Oliver Ensor-Adams who secured the top prize.

Oliver delighted the judging panel, which included the Head Chef from Alderley Edge restaurant, The Grill on the Edge, with his main course of steak with mustard sauce and sweet potato and orange mash followed by banana and honey galettes with sugar decorations.

Matthew Byle was the runner up and Lucy Snell won the Middle School trophy.

THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE

Second Year pupils took part in a careers afternoon where they enjoyed talks from professionals from a range of industries including BBC News’ Health Correspondent Dominic Hughes and Alex Devlin, who is custodial manager at Styal Prison.

There were also talks on medicine, engineering, architecture, IT, law, dentistry, optometry and retail. Pupils had the chance to ask questions after they had heard more about the various career paths.



CRAFTY WAY TO SUPPORT CHARITY

Pupils put their creative skills to the test to make teddy bears from scratch in support of a local charity.

Sairah Naseer, who was chosen to be a First Year Friend at the start of the school year, decided to set up a craft club for Lower School pupils as a means of helping Reuben’s Retreat – which supports the families of children with life-limiting or life-threatening illnesses – and to allow First Years to meet pupils from different forms.

With the help of her friends and Sixth Form volunteers, and using the expertise of Head of Textiles Mrs Vernon and DT technician Mrs Gledhill, the pupils produced a number of teddy bears as well as accessories such as scarves, straps and personalised name tags.

RECOGNISING DUKE OF EDINBURGH SUCCESS

A great time was had by pupils, parents, staff and guests at the school’s 11th Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award Presentation Evening.

Following a number of highlights - including a demonstration of the pupils’ DofE activities, the Senior Percussion Ensemble’s versions of *Lights Out* and *Mambo No. 5* and ballroom dancing – the DofE certificates and badges were presented by former Rugby League player Tim Holmes.

Special awards were presented by Paul Griffiths, DofE North of England’s Operations Manager.



LOWER SCHOOL PUPILS PROVE THEIR MUSICAL TALENTS

The audience at the Lower School Recital were treated to strong performances from a range of musicians and genres.

Highlights included the *Toy Story* medley from the Vox group and a rousing Beethoven piece from the Brass Ensemble.

The Boys’ Vocal Group entertained the crowd with their version of songs by Neil Diamond and David Guetta and the Woodwind Ensemble played *Let It Go* from the hit movie *Frozen*.

The Junior Chamber Choir delighted the audience with traditional pieces before the Junior Percussion Ensemble closed proceedings.

AMAZING A-LEVEL ACHIEVEMENTS

Sixth Form pupils had cause for celebration as they enjoyed their success with a 100% pass rate and 52% of results awarded at A* and A.

Simon Fraser was amongst the many high achieving pupils, gaining four A*s in Maths, Further Maths, French and Music. Simon balanced his academic studies with his role in the National Youth Orchestra. He will now go on to study Music at Christ's College, Cambridge.

He said: **"It's been tough juggling my music with all my other subjects and the National Youth Orchestra but it's been an amazing experience and I got the results I need to get to where I want to be. I am looking forward to continuing my studies and hopefully carry on playing with the NYO."**

Hayley Birks will study Law at Hertford College, Oxford, after securing an A* in English Literature, an A in German and a B in History.

She said: **"I got into my first choice university and it was hard work but I am so happy. I can't wait to get started."**

Chris Hewetson is looking forward to starting a Chemical Engineering degree at Downing College, Cambridge, after getting A*s in Maths and Physics and As in Chemistry and Further Maths.

Jacob Schafheutle-Evans achieved A*s in English Literature, Maths and Further Maths and an A in Physics. He will go on to study English Literature at Queens' College, Cambridge.

Henry Brearley, a talented organist and pianist, took a year out after leaving school in 2015 to focus on music and has secured a place to study Natural Sciences at St Catherine's College, Cambridge.

Georgina Blears got an A* for English Literature and As in Maths and Philosophy. She will go on to study English with Philosophy at Bristol University.

She said: **"I worked so hard for these exams so to see these results in front of me is proof that hard work pays off and it was all worth it."**



Amy Bradley secured A*s in Biology, Chemistry and Maths. She is looking forward to starting a degree in Medicine at Newcastle University. She completed her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award while studying for her A-Levels.

Thomas Taylor was delighted with A*s for Maths, Further Maths and Biology and an A for Chemistry while Cassandra Hotchkies got A*s in Maths and Physics and an A for Chemistry.

Headmaster Mr Chicken said:

"I am delighted for our girls and boys and I hope that they will enjoy celebrating their well-deserved success with their families. With the support of their parents and teachers, their hard work and dedication has brought them outstanding results and I wish them well as they go on to challenging courses at the country's most competitive universities. In their commitment to school life and involvement in a wide range of co-curricular and voluntary activities they have become role models for the younger pupils. I am sure that they will continue to excel and to enjoy the many opportunities that lie ahead for them."

For more exam success stories and pictures, visit our website



TIME TO CELEBRATE

Former Fifth Years enjoyed the results of their hard work with 44 pupils gaining at least 10 A* and A grades, including 18 who gained 10 or more A*s.

Fifty seven pupils secured at least nine A* or A grades and well over a quarter of the year achieved a clean sweep of A* and A grades.

Katarina Sandall was amongst the school's best performing pupils with her haul of 12 A*s.

Nathan Kingsley, Sam Howard and Adam Keyworth each got 11 A*s. Nathan and Sam's clutch of A*s includes a distinction for Further Maths.

Sam's grades are perfect preparation for his A-level studies in Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Chemistry. Sam, who would like to study Maths at university, also enjoys the musical life of the school, having guitar and double bass lessons and taking part in concerts.

Lili Jones, who plays netball for the school team, is part of the School Council and enjoys the Model United Nations club, said she was **"so very happy"** with her nine A*s and two As. She added: **"I was predicted to do well and I worked really hard but you never know. I thought I had messed up some of my exams but seeing the results in black and white shows all my hard work was worth it."** A-levels in English Literature, Philosophy, Classics and Art now await Lili.



CHEMISTS BANG AND FLASH THEIR WAY TO COMPETITION SUCCESS

Chemistry pupils Callum Day, Maddy Evans, Alice McCluggage and George Zelfhof took part in the Salters Festival of Chemistry at The University of Manchester and finished first after beating competitors from 24 other schools.

Pupils took part in two laboratory exercises – a forensic practical to identify a 'criminal' by performing chemical tests and a practical challenge to design an experiment that would take exactly one minute.

At this year's Chemquiz, pupils also faced a busy day as their subject knowledge was put to the test via a series of tough challenges.

Ben Wilson, Murray Jallands, Oliver Ensor-Adams and Caitlin Cutts completed a series of tests including chemical anagrams, crosswords and dingbats before answering questions based on experiments they had seen.

Although the team didn't win the main quiz, Caitlin won the mug design competition and her design will feature on mugs at Chemquiz 2017.



SCHOOL PLAYS HOST TO BBC MUSIC DAY AMBASSADOR

Jennifer Pike, a renowned classically trained violinist, performed in the Hallam Hall in April in aid of The Wellspring, one of the charities the school supports, at their Spring Recital.

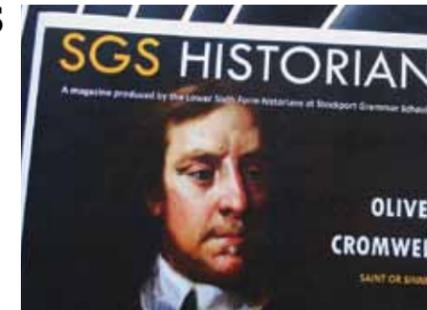
A BBC crew filmed the musician's performance, a duet with French pianist Patrick Hemmerlé, for their Music Day celebrations. Jennifer was also filmed being interviewed in the Quad.

Jennifer is a patron of The Wellspring, a charity that provides services to homeless and disadvantaged people. She shot to international recognition when she was named the BBC Young Musician of the Year at twelve years of age – the youngest ever winner at that time.

LOWER SIXTH PUPILS MAKE HISTORY

Budding historians have produced a new magazine that gives readers a pupil's insight into the characters and events that have shaped our history.

The magazine, edited by Rachel Whatley, features written contributions from eight pupils whilst Head of Sixth Form Mr Stone also provides an article.



ENTERPRISING PUPILS IN THE FRAME

Lower Sixth pupils demonstrated their flair for business by being crowned winners of Young Enterprise's area final.

The group's business Frameous, bespoke letter frames tailored to fit customers' exact specification, was the outright winner of the Stockport-Tameside-Rochdale area final and they also won the award for Best Trade stand.

The team progressed to the regional event but were knocked out in the quarter finals.



JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

PRIZE GIVING PRIDE

The school year came to a celebratory close with an evening of speeches, dance and musical entertainment. Prizes were presented by Governor and former pupil John Shackleton.



INAUGURAL PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL IS A HUGE SUCCESS

The Junior School held their first ever Performing Arts Festival in the Senior School Hall.

The event, which had an audience of over 150 people, kicked off with the Year 5 and Year 6 vocalists singing *Somewhere* and *Electricity*. Next up Years 3 and 4 delivered a speech and drama piece and this was swiftly followed by Year 5 showing off their dance moves.

Proceedings concluded with the orchestra playing a piece by Haydn and ABBA's classic *Thank You For The Music*.



The Junior School orchestra displayed their musical talents with *Summer Song* by Jean Allison, followed by an exceptional piano performance from Talia Zelfhof. Tahlia Smith and Tanie-Finn Grainger then captivated the audience with a beautiful dance piece. The vocalists' rendition of *Adiemus* by Karl Jenkins was striking for its use of a series of solo performances by different members of the group.

Speeches by the Chairman of Governors Christopher Dunn and Headmaster Tim Wheeler reflected on the school year while Head Girl Amy Jack and Head Boy Alexander Foster captured the vibrancy of school life from a pupil's perspective.



FANTASTIC FOOTBALL FINESSE

The Year 6 team swept aside all-comers as they won the Stockport Schools Junior Football Shield.

The school came up against teams from St. Joseph's (Reddish), Banks Lane, Broadstone Hall, Didsbury Road and St. Winifred's and they won all of their games to triumph in the competition for the fifth time.

The prestigious trophy, which was first played for in 1938, sits proudly amongst the other sporting trophies won by the Junior School this year.



BRIGHT FUTURE AHEAD FOR YEAR 6 CRICKETER

Josh Patel was selected to play for the Cheshire Youth Cricket U11 County side for the 2016 season after strong performances in training and for the school team.

Josh, who is captain of the school team, couldn't wait for the county season to get started. He said: **"I am really happy to be picked to represent my county – it will be great for my development. The selection process was fun and I know most of the Cheshire squad from playing against them for the school."**

SPORTS DAY FUN

Junior School pupils showed off their energetic sides as they took part in Sports Day, competing in running, jumping and throwing events.

The Years 5 and 6 event culminated in an exciting relay with the Warren girls winning by a good distance whilst the Warren boys also found success – albeit by a tighter margin.

The Infant event started shortly after a heavy downpour with the children completing their sprints and pressing through their nerf torpedo throw, long jump and hurdles at quite a pace so that they could finish before the next deluge.

WELL DONE DARCY

Year 5 pupil Darcy Breen showed off her sporting prowess as she finished first in the Manchester Harriers Primary Schools League race. What made the achievement even more impressive was that she was facing competitors not only from her year but from the year above.



The Nursery children particularly enjoyed their shopping races and they were given fantastic support by the staff and watching families.

SUCCESS ON TRACK, IN THE FIELD AND ON COURT

The Athletics and Tennis squads produced impressive results in their respective competitions.

Our athletes put in strong performances at the AJIS Championships in Stanley Park, Blackpool, with 14 out of 16 pupils qualifying for their event final.

Max Day jumped a personal best to secure the bronze medal in the high jump, Darcy Breen won the Year 5 600 metres and Amy Jack finished 3rd in the Year 6 final. Libby Bowden fought hard to hold onto 3rd place in the Year 6 150m sprint and Annabel Mobley set a new championship best time of 11.40 seconds to win the Year 6 80m sprint. The Year 6 girls relay team won the gold medal.

Year 6 pupil William Morris (pictured left) had an ace time at the AJIS Tennis Tournament at King's School in Chester as he took home the top prize – the second consecutive year that a Stockport Grammar Junior School pupil has won this tournament.



SPORTS ROUND UP

Pupils demonstrated their sporting prowess with the cricket team winning a tournament and several athletics stars qualifying for a prestigious final.

The U11 cricket team travelled to Manchester Grammar School to play against some of our top local rivals in a sixes tournament. It was a short but successful trip as they won every game to be crowned champions beating Newcastle-under-Lyme School, St Bede's, Manchester Grammar School and Cheadle Hulme.

Athletes from Years 5 and 6 had a fantastic day at Longford Stadium when they competed in the IAPS (The Independent Association of Prep Schools) Area 7 Championships with several pupils earning places in the National Finals.

Darcy Breen won the U11 girls' 1,500m; Dominic Hanson came 2nd in the U11 boys' 1,500m; Amy Jack came 3rd in the girls' U12 1,500m; Patrick Wilkinson finished 4th in the U12 boys' 1,500m; Talia Zelfhof finished 5th in the U12 girls' 800m; as did Oliver Van der Ploeg in the U12 boys' race.

In the finals of the sprints Annabel Mobley came 1st in the U12 girls' 100m, Libby Bowden 2nd in the 200m, Holly Williams 3rd in the U11 100m and Harry Williams 2nd in the U12 200m.

In the team relays our athletes were on form too with the girls winning by a good margin and the boys finishing a close second.



ACTION PACKED ADVENTURE HOLIDAY

Year 6 pupils enjoyed an action-packed visit to Castleton for their eagerly anticipated residential trip.

The group stayed at Losehill Hall Youth Hostel which is surrounded by its own farmland full of sheep, trees and birds. Pupils enjoyed the freedom to explore the grounds, play football and make dens before their activities started.

On the first day, they worked in groups to build a stepping stone path before seeing who could cross their path first whilst carrying a jug of water.

They also completed the Jumblies Challenge which saw them hunting for

anagrams hidden around the Youth Hostel grounds and solving them. They ended their night by baking their own bread and watching films.

The next day, the group went on a long hike through the Peak District and climbed Mam Tor. They also built shelters in the woods and learnt how to start fires with flint and steel.

In the evening they built rockets using a range of materials before seeing if they could launch them without breaking the egg that they had placed on board. On their final day, pupils carried out an orienteering GPS challenge in and around Castleton village.

BUDDING ACTORS TAKE TO THE STAGE

Year 3 pupils got to show their passion for performance as they put on a Drama show.

Each class presented a performance poem, with 3R tackling parts of the witches' scene from *Macbeth*, including rhyming couplets which the children in each of the classes had created. 3R also recreated a scene from *The Great Fire of London* whilst 3H and 3LH tackled elements of the story of *Odysseus* and his long journey home. 3H introduced the story of *Aeolus, King of the Winds* and 3LH performed the famous scene where *Odysseus* has himself tied to the mast of his ship so that he might hear 'the song of the sirens'.



IT'S ALL GO IN GRASMERE

Year 3 pupils travelled to the Lake District for their annual trip to Grasmere to put their classroom studies to the test.

On their first day, the group took a boat ride in glorious sunshine around Lake Windermere before they took a tour around Wray Castle. They also engaged in some wild art which saw them design and build shields using foliage, branches and moss. They finished the day with a walk to the beach and a trip to an adventure playground before settling down to sleep at the Butharlyp Howe Youth Hostel.

Exploring the village of Grasmere was on the agenda for day two as they were tasked with finding out why the Lake District has so many visitors. Their journey took them past the village church, school, shops, cafes and guest houses and they looked for fish in the River Rothay. After stocking up on Sarah Nelson's famous gingerbread it was time for everyone to board the coach home.

Year 3 teacher Mrs Roberts said: **"For many of the children this was the first time they had been away from home without parents. However, they were very well behaved, had lots of fun and engaged in all the activities with enthusiasm. They worked well as a team and were polite and respectful of others. We had a great time."**



FARM FUN FOR NURSERY PUPILS

Nursery pupils enjoyed the countryside when they visited Stockley Farm in Northwich for an action-packed day of hands-on activities.

The group got their voices in tune by singing *Old McDonald* as they took a bumpy tractor ride. Pupils gave the baby goats their bottle before they visited pets corner where they were up close to lambs, calves, ponies, donkeys, pigs, rabbits and hamsters.

The sight of birds of prey had the children in awe and they enjoyed finding out how the cows are milked when they visited the milking shed.

The day culminated with an outdoor picnic and an afternoon in the sandpits and on the climbing frame before the group boarded the bus back to school.



MINIBEAST MANIA

Nursery pupils enjoyed discovering more about minibeasts. They went bug hunting in the conservation area, learnt the words to Incey Wincey Spider and washed their pipe cleaner spiders down the drains. They also made bird feeders using a pine cone as a base and made beautiful butterfly paintings whilst learning about symmetry.



TIME CAPSULE TASK

Pupils were tasked with coming up with ideas for items that could be included in a time capsule that is being buried in the school grounds to mark the centenary of the re-foundation of the school on the Hallam Site.

Some of the items that will be included are a whole school photograph, a school teddy, newsletter, school DVD, dolls and some of the pupils' favourite books.



COMPETITION HOTS UP FOR ANNUAL HOUSE QUIZ

Pupils from Arden, Nicholson, Vernon and Warren went head to head in a closely fought contest with questions covering topics including Science, Geography, Sport and a special round about the history of the school.

Vernon emerged victorious and the House Captains Talia Zelfhof and Oliver Van Der Ploeg were awarded the shield.



GOING COLOURFUL FOR CHARITY

Pupils went colour crazy to raise money for the NSPCC.

The children were offered the opportunity to wear as many colours as they could and some of the girls in particular really rose to the challenge.

The morning's assembly considered the importance of colour and what a world without colour would be like. The children were then encouraged to think about children less fortunate than themselves every time they noticed a colourful outfit.

WELCOME TO ANIMAL CLUB

Reception pupils had an exciting afternoon meeting hamsters, a blue tongued-lizard, a tortoise, tadpoles and a corn snake when they paid a visit to Animal Club which is run every week in the Senior School.

The children discovered where the animals come from, how to care for them and what food they eat. They also got a chance to see them up close and even stroke them.



YEAR 5 PUPILS MAKE THE MOST OF THEIR ROBINWOOD TRIP

Pupils had a great time at Dobroyd Castle in Todmorden as part of their exciting residential trip.

They took part in a variety of activities aimed at helping children develop and reflect on their teamwork, communication and problem solving skills. Activities included canoeing, raft building, swinging from zip wires, indoor climbing, trapeze leaping, indoor archery and caving. They also took part in a blindfolded nightline activity and encountered the infamous Piranha Pool and Dungeon of Doom.

Pupil Remi Fadahunsi said: **"I learned more about people and how to work as a team."**

whilst Euan McIlraith added: **"I've overcome my fear of heights. My team encouraged me and I did the zip wire and giant swing!"**



GOING GREEK

Year 3 took part in Greek Day to mark the end of their study of the topic of Ancient Greece.

They made masks, learnt the Greek alphabet so that they could spell their names in clay and sampled some Greek food.

VET VISIT INSPIRES YOUNG ANIMAL LOVERS

Reception pupils got an insight into the life of a vet as Sarah Williams from Blue House Veterinary Centre came in to talk to the children.

Pupils used a stethoscope, examined x-rays, bandaged up injured pets and dressed up in veterinary clothes. They really enjoyed the experience and it looks like the lives of pets in the future will be in safe hands.



TREASURE TROVE OF FUN ON PIRATE DAY

Year 1 enjoyed a fun filled day as Pirates. They started the morning by making their own parrots and giving themselves a pirate name.

Then they completed an exciting treasure hunt around the school and all the children managed to find some goodies. The children made their own pirate food and even completed a pirate based music lesson and a pirate themed PE lesson.

DANCE DELIGHT

Pupils Alex Bloor, Amelia Massey and Darcy Breen organised a dance competition as a fun way of raising money for charity Orphans In Need.

They were keen to support this charity as they wanted children not as fortunate as themselves to have a better education and quality of life.

The competition was for pupils from Years 3 to 6 and entrants had to put together a dance with three people. Lots of teams entered and there were some amazing dances. Well done to the winning team - The Fire Hunters. The event raised £92.50.