

TAKING / STOCK

Stockport Grammar
School Newsletter



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ARTS



ARTISTS AMAZE AT YEAR 5 ART COMPETITION

Budding artists from the local area headed to the school to celebrate their skill and creativity at the annual Year 5 Art Competition, sponsored by Brewin Dolphin.

The competition is now in its fourth year and welcomed entries from 114 artists from primary schools in the area.

Ayanfe Odusoga from Lady Barn House School took away first prize and she was closely followed by runners-up, Lili Reynolds of Heyes Lane Primary School and Lola Stott of Whaley Bridge Primary School.

Speaking about the entries, Mr Richard Davies, Head of Art and Design said: **"The standard and variety of work was excellent. It was great that entries included a selection of clay, collage and mixed media pieces as well as more traditional drawings and paintings. Well done to each and every one of the artists."**



ANNIE BRINGS MUSICAL SUNSHINE TO THE STAGE

A sparkling production of the musical *Annie* brought together the talents of over 90 pupils to delight audiences at each of the four performances.

With First Year Annabel Stockton in the title role and featuring pupils from every year of the school through to Upper Sixth, the production combined drama, dance and music to tell the well-known story along with its catchy songs.

Joshua Furtado-Mendes as Daddy Warbucks and Laura Welch as Grace took Annie away from the care of the evil Miss Hannigan, played by Grace Shropshire, eventually outwitting the scheming Rooster, played by Mo Al-Salam, and Lily, played by Niamh Johnson, to reach a happy ending.

Audiences were delighted to see the talent and enthusiasm of the cast as they sang, danced and acted with obvious enjoyment. Bursting with classic tunes like *Tomorrow*, *It's a Hard-Knock Life*,

You're Never Fully Dressed Without a Smile and *Easy Street*, the show was full of fun and even featured a faultless canine performance by Ralph Goddard as Sandy.

The cast on stage were supported by fellow pupils in the orchestra who provided an outstanding musical accompaniment; the Green Room Club who created sets, props and costumes; and those who worked to supply sound, lighting and stage management.

Director Mrs Alison Moffatt said: **"This year we have many new faces gracing our stage, from new to the school First Years all the way up to Sixth Formers who have jumped in with both feet and given the musical a whirl. It has been a real pleasure for all of the staff to guide and develop this new talent."**



MARVELLOUS MUSIC AT SPRING CONCERT

The Music department took the short journey up the A6 to St George's Church for the annual Spring Concert.

Junior Chamber Choir opened the programme with *Day by Day*, *Now the Green Blade Rises* and *Wayfaring Stranger*.

This was followed by Upper Sixth pupil Jo Brown performing the beautiful first movement of Vaughan Williams' *Oboe Concerto* with String Orchestra.

Chamber Choir sounded wonderful delivering perennial favourite *Panis Angelicus*, along with a selection of a cappella works.

The second half featured Chorus with Vivaldi's ever popular *Gloria*, with Georgia Curwen, Caitlin Cutts, Niamh Johnson, Elsa Shah and Zoe Shah performing the solo movements.



EVENTS

FORMER PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL TO SHARE THE SECRETS OF THEIR SUCCESS

Clare Francis spoke to Business Studies and Economics pupils about her career in the finance industry.

Clare is now a Director at Barclays, heading customer engagement and content for a new service designed to make online investing quicker and more straightforward.

Clare was previously a journalist at *The Sunday Times* and *The Independent on Sunday* before becoming Editor-in-Chief of *MoneySuperMarket* in 2008, focussing on consumer affairs and public affairs strategy.

Junior doctor Nicola Williams spoke to pupils in the Fifth Year and Sixth Form about her experiences in the medical profession. She studied medicine at the University of Birmingham and is based in Worcester.

Nicola shared her most positive experiences from her time at Medical School as well as some of the challenges she has faced as a medical student and junior doctor.



INTREPID CLIMBERS HAVE CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION

A number of our boys and girls competed in the Winter Bouldering League at the Climbing Hanger in Liverpool, taking on entrants from across the North West.

In the male under 16 category, Sam Lavender was crowned champion closely followed by Mohammed Umar in second place. Nicola Cutts took top spot in the female fun category.

Nineteen pupils from First Year to Lower Sixth took part in the Manchester Schools Climbing Competition, notching up an impressive number of podium finishes to be crowned overall team winners.

In the KS4 boys category, Mohammed Umar, Leon Evans and Nicholas Dow achieved a clean sweep picking up first, second and third places respectively. In the KS4 girls category Eve Cox finished third whilst in the KS3 boys category Sam Lavender took the top spot.

EXPLORING ART

Lower Sixth pupil Lili Jones finished second in the North West final of ARTiculation after she wowed judges with her presentation on the relevance and role of conceptual art.

Lili was invited to compete for the prize at the Whitworth Art Gallery after she emerged triumphant from the opening round which was held at school.



Picture by – ARTiculation 2017 and The Roche Court Educational Trust

AUTHOR VISITS SPARK PUPILS' CREATIVITY

Sufiya Ahmed spoke to Second and Fourth Year pupils about her book *Secrets of the Henna Girl*. Sufiya set up a non-profit organisation which arranges visits to the Houses of Parliament for underprivileged school children, and the pupils enjoyed hearing about her passion for writing and how she got into the industry.

Award winning novelist, Everest climber and film-maker Matt Dickinson paid a visit to speak to pupils about his career, his books and his creative writing process.

Eloise Scott, Bella Platt and Daood Malik were presented with *The North Face* – the second book in Matt's *The Everest Files* trilogy – after their entries were selected following a creative writing task.

John Greenway, a student and lecturer at Manchester Metropolitan University, delivered a captivating talk to pupils about the link between religion and horror in film and literature.

Sixth Form pupils also had the pleasure of having Welsh novelist, poet and playwright Owen Sheers deliver a talk to them in the Library and hearing about his inspirations including R.S. Thomas and Thomas Hardy.



FRIENDSHIPS FORGED AS FRENCH EXCHANGE VISITS SCHOOL

Fourth Year French pupils have recently had fun hosting their exchange partners from our Parisian link school, Collège Sévigné.

During their week-long stay, the party of seven boys, 13 girls and two teachers were able to see many of the North West's top sites, including visits to Lyme Park, the Imperial War Museum and Manchester City and Manchester United's football grounds.

The visitors also had an opportunity to use the school climbing wall and go kayaking in the school pool as well as

attending lessons with their partner.

The French pupils were also well and truly spoilt by their English host families, being taken on visits to Blackpool and London, dining en masse at a local Italian restaurant, going bowling and trampolining and even enjoying a night out at the school's production of *Annie*.

On the return leg in June, our pupils will have the chance to experience French life and culture at first hand and practise their own French speaking skills.



EXTREME ATHLETE ENTHRALLS PUPILS

Extreme athlete, world champion climber and adventurer Tim Emmett visited the school for the final Shaa lecture of the academic year.

In his talk to Sixth Formers, he highlighted the importance of having an open mind, putting in effort and developing perseverance in order to maximise opportunity and realise potential.

A number of younger pupils also took advantage of Tim's visit to take part in a climbing masterclass where he shared some tips and demonstrated the skills that have helped him to success on his spectacular climbs including Interstellar Spice at Helmcken Falls, Canada.

NOT LOST IN TRANSLATION

Pupils studying French and German were able to boost their language skills the fun way when Onatti Productions paid a visit to the school.

The company performed *Auf Dem Campingplatz* – or *On the Campsite* – for Third Year German pupils and *Le Café* for Second Year French pupils.



OUT AND ABOUT

HISTORY AND HOGWARTS

First Year pupils had a fun-filled and educational time on a two day cross-curricular Classics and English trip.

First stop was The British Museum in Bloomsbury which is dedicated to human history, art and culture. Pupils took part in a classical treasure hunt which built upon the work they have been doing in lessons.

Next, the group headed to the Warner Bros. Studios in Leavesden where they went on the Harry Potter tour.

Pupils completed Hogwarts passports, saw famous sets and costumes from the films and got to show off their knowledge of the young wizard and his friends in a themed quiz.



THOUGHT PROVOKING TRIP FOR FIFTH YEAR PUPILS

History and Religious Studies pupils learned more about the history of Kraków and the horrors of the Holocaust on a recent trip to Poland.

During their four day expedition, the boys and girls explored the Jewish Quarter. They visited the synagogues and Oskar Schindler's factory and took an informative tour of the ghetto in Kazimierz, an important centre of cultural life in the city.

Pupils were given a chance to reflect during a visit to Auschwitz and Birkenau where they learned more about the concentration and extermination camps that were used in World War II.

They were then given a guided tour of Kraków old town and Kazimierz Mall before going underground to explore Wieliczka's 13th Century salt mines.

Pupil Katie Fairfax said: **"I enjoyed discovering the cultural background of the city of Kraków. In contrast, the trip to Auschwitz gave us all an eye opening experience of the hardships and prejudice the Jewish people had to endure."**



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS

InStock Technologies, our Young Enterprise team, won the Best Overall Company in the Greater Manchester final of the competition. They also won the award for Best Company Report.

The judges stated that they **"were excellent in every area of the business"** and that they are **"one of the most professional Young Enterprise teams they have ever seen"**.

The team are now through to the North West Finals which take place at the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) in June.



EXPLORING THE FINER THINGS IN LIFE

Our Lower Sixth economists had the rare but rewarding opportunity of being taken around the entire production process at Bentley Motors, Crewe.

The pupils learnt about the concepts of specialisation and division of labour and the impact this has on quality as they were shown how the car shell was manufactured and how Bentley designed the woodwork and leather.

MAKING SENSE OF SCIENCE

Fourth Year pupils visited the Palace Theatre in Manchester as they spent a day listening to five famous scientists at Science Live 2017.

A Level Biology pupils enjoyed thought-provoking lectures from renowned scientists as they visited The University of Manchester's Whitworth Hall for A Level Science Live.

A Level Chemistry pupils were treated to a range of excellent talks from eminent scientists at a Science Live event at The University of Manchester.

Professor Andrea Sella delivered a talk on rare earth elements, Dr Peter Wothers discussed spectroscopy and Dr Sujata Kundu spoke about changing her mind about carbon. Dr Jamie Gallagher brought up the issue of the human battery whilst Dr Philip Ball's talk gave his opinions on why water is weird.

Sixth Form scientists had an informative and educational time at a Medical Physics Open Evening at The Christie.

The pupils were treated to a keynote speech from Marcel van Herk, one of the world's leading experts in radiotherapy, and had the opportunity to put their body through a PET scanner.



SPANISH STAGE SHOW

Pupils studying Spanish visited Manchester's Royal Exchange Theatre to see Federico Garcia Lorca's *The House of Bernarda Alba*.

The group enjoyed watching the playwright's final masterpiece – a bitter and dark comic tragedy that charts the tyranny, jealousy and desperate struggle for freedom of a mother and her daughters.



PSYCHED UP FOR PSYCHOLOGY

A level Psychology pupils boosted their knowledge of the subject at a revision conference led by authors Cara Flanagan and Mike Cardwell and former chief examiner Karen Duffy. Over the course of the day the group learnt techniques to target their revision and effectively utilise their existing knowledge.



EXCITING TIMES FOR OUTDOOR EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

Our adventurous winter mountaineering pupils braved the cold weather on a trip to Fort William.

During the trip the pupils scaled Meall a' Bhùiridh, Stob Coire Nan Lochan and Broad Gully – a grade one winter climb. They also trekked up and down Buachaille Etive Beag and ascended the north side of Ben Nevis, the highest mountain in the British Isles.

Our kayakers had two excellent days on the water of the River Dee in Wales as they continued their preparation for their trip to the Alps this summer.

Lower Sixth pupils enjoyed a weekend in the Yorkshire Dales as they took part in Duke of Edinburgh Gold training.

The group of 32 boys and girls were able to hone a number of skills, including map reading, as they explored the picturesque area of the Pennines.

Just before the Spring Term ended, 52 pupils spent the weekend at Monsal Head in the Derbyshire Peak District on a Duke of Edinburgh North of England Bronze expedition.

The photograph above is of the outdoor pursuits trip to Eskdale Gorge in the Lake District.

MARVELLOUS MATHS



Joanna Brown, Sam Howard, Dan Jones and Nathan Kingsley performed very strongly in the National Final of the UK Mathematics Trust competition as they took part in a number of tough tasks.

The competition, which took place in London, included a crossnumber puzzle (one pair attempting the across clues and the other pair the down clues), a shuttle round (where the solution to each problem was dependent on the previous answer) and a relay race (where each pair gets alternate questions and they attempt to complete as many as possible against the clock).

GOOD TIMES IN BAD SEGEBERG

Languages pupils spent an exciting week in Bad Segeberg as they made the return trip to visit their German exchange partners.

The group spent the first day at Städtisches Gymnasium school before settling in to the homes of their German host families. The following day the group visited the Town Hall and met the Chairwoman of the local administration who told them more about Bad Segeberg. Pupils spent the weekend exploring, relaxing and socialising with their host families.

On the fourth day of the trip the group went to the Hansestadt museum and then to look at the new Elbphilharmonie building, a spectacular concert hall which opened in 2016. They also visited a museum in Flensburg which is very close to the Danish border.

On the penultimate day of the expedition, the group had a tour of the Holstentor museum followed by a trip round the local shops before sampling exquisite chocolates and cakes in the Niederegger café.

Fifth Year Cornelia Kolusi said: **"I feel brave to have been able to come out of my comfort zone and come away with such an amazing experience."**



SECOND YEARS ENJOY INSPIRING VISIT

Life Studies pupils visited Levenshulme Inspire as they continued to learn about Britishness and the impact of living in a multicultural society.

After walking through the neighbourhoods to get a feel for the local area, the pupils looked around the Centre to see what kind of things they offered. They were impressed by the range of clubs available (from baby yoga to English classes) and by the space upstairs that local businesses could use.

The boys and girls especially loved Heart & Parcel's food workshop which saw women from a variety of communities set up stalls with lots of delicious food available to try.



AMAZING ART IN PICTURESQUE PARIS

Pupils relished the opportunity to bring their classroom studies to life when they explored the stunning galleries and museums of the French capital.

First stop for the group of Fourth and Fifth Year pupils was the Georges Pompidou Centre which was designed by Richard Rogers and Renzo Piano and is home to a fantastic collection of 20th Century work.

Next up was the Musée de l'Orangerie where the largest of Monet's *Waterlilies* series of paintings are housed, as well as a wonderful collection of Impressionist works by the likes of Picasso, Renoir, Cézanne, Soutine and Utrillo.

At The Musée d'Orsay, the group were able to feast their eyes on one of the best collections of pre-19th Century work anywhere in the world.

Pupils also enjoyed exploring the artists' quarter around Montmartre as well as visiting Sacré Coeur, the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre and Tuileries gardens where they were able to see the line that runs between the Palais de Louvre and the Arc de Triomphe.

Fourth Year pupil Zahra Butt said: **"It was a great trip and there was a really nice and relaxed atmosphere. My favourite part was the Musée de l'Orangerie as I like Monet. I learnt more about cubism and it is something that I might look to include in my work."**

SCHOOL LIFE



MAKING MAGICAL MUSICAL MEMORIES

Junior School pupils have been getting a helping hand from the Senior School as they start their musical journeys.

Superstrings is a group of 12 pupils from Years 3 and 4 who make a weekly trip to the Senior School's Music department to further their knowledge of string instruments. They try their hand at playing the violin, cello and double bass and develop ensemble and team-working skills.

The Senior School plays host to Junior School pupils after school on Wednesdays for a new Brass and Woodwind group. The younger pupils are taught by Senior School staff Mr White and Mr Moore and they will build up to putting on a performance for parents, pupils and staff.

Some of the more experienced musicians from the Senior School play at Junior School assemblies before giving pupils the chance to ask them questions about their instrument and when they started to play.



BRILLIANT BAKERS

Fourth Year pupils Lauren Suddards and Sonu Thomas were picked as the star bakers in the annual House Bake Off competition.

Baking expert Tony Paton returned to the school to judge all of the cakes on display.

Tony chose Lauren and Sonu, representing Arden, as the overall winners with their spectacular chocolate 'tree stump' cake.

READY FOR THE READ

At the start of the Spring Term, the Library launched *The Read 2017*, an initiative for Lower School pupils organised by librarians from several secondary schools in Stockport.

Our pupils took part in The Big 5 category which challenged them to read five novels and vote for their favourite.

Our pupils chose *Jessica's Ghost* as their winner but the overall winner, chosen by the seven participating schools, was *The Wolf Wilder*.



FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATES 530 YEARS OF HISTORY

Pupils, staff, governors and Old Stopfordians gathered at St George's Church to commemorate the foundation of the school by Sir Edmond Shaa in 1487.

Sir Edmond Shaa's will established the school, and his appointment of the Goldsmiths' Company as the administrators of his bequest created the school's historic and continuing link with one of the Twelve Great Livery Companies of London. Sir David Reddaway, the Clerk of the Goldsmiths' Company, joined the school for the service at St George's.

The Preacher Rev. Nigel Genders, Chief Education Officer for the Church of England, focussed his address on the question 'what is education for?', saying: **"As human beings we were made to live in relationship with others, and one of the core purposes of education is to equip us to grow and learn to relate to others in a meaningful way."** – Rev. Genders full address is available on the school website.



MAY THE BEST SPEAKER WIN

Second Year German pupils boosted their pronunciation skills by reading extracts from the Grimms' fairy tale *Hansel and Gretel* aloud in class. Two winners from each form were chosen to compete in a final judged by the German language assistants.

Harry Brown was the worthy winner and received a £15 iTunes voucher. He was followed by runners-up Vainavi Trivedi and Haniah Daji, who both received a box of chocolates.



DEBATING SUCCESS AS PUPILS HOST MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

The school welcomed over 100 visiting pupils to an MUN conference where attendees were split into six committees: Security Council; Human Rights; Fu-Tech; EnviroSoc; Culture; and Political and Disarmament to discuss issues including cultural integration, animal use in entertainment, corruption in political office, ethics and reliance on Artificial Intelligence and the Syrian Civil War.

The two day conference generated many interesting and informed debates in all of the committees and reflected the talents of the pupils who competed. The chairs of each committee skilfully maintained the high level of debate.

The event culminated with a crisis that was discussed at the General Assembly. The crisis was a solar flare that affected the majority of the world and it was the role of the MUN to find a resolution to this problem.

BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PERFORM ALEX'S COMPOSITION

Upper Sixth musician Alex Jones has had one of his compositions performed by the prestigious BBC Symphony Orchestra.

Last year, Alex's piece, *Sensim Mutationem* ('Gradual Change'), was selected from hundreds of entries as the winner in the Senior category of BBC Proms Inspire Young Composers Competition.

The prize for winning the competition was a commission to write a piece inspired by one of the BBC's 50 Modern Classics. Alex chose Louis Andriessen's *De Staat* and created his own piece called *Dialektike* which was performed by four members of the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

Alex, who plays the double bass and piano and counts British composer, pianist and conductor Thomas Adès as inspiration, said of his achievement:

"I was a bit surprised but very glad that I won the competition as it meant that I had the chance to work on a classic piece of work."

"It was hard to choose one of them but I enjoyed looking at the original composer's work and going from there and to have my piece performed by the BBC Symphony Orchestra was an honour."

The 18 year old, who has been composing for six years, is hoping to study Music at Selwyn College, Cambridge as he aims for a career as a performer, composer and researcher.

Alex is pictured (below) performing with the school.



OUTSTANDING ARTISTS SEE THEIR WORK ON DISPLAY

Artists Libby Colbert and Emilia Heywood-Leigh were very proud to see their work on show at The Lowry as part of *Living Edge* magazine's School Arts Competition.

Their work is also featured in the current issue of the magazine.



JAPAN AND AMERICA ARE ON THE AGENDA FOR AWARD WINNING PUPILS



Every year the school awards a bursary to pupils from the Sixth Form who want to travel to further their experience and knowledge of a passion or subject.

The Albert Johnston Travel Award judging panel awarded two prizes with both pupils receiving £1,000.

Adam Keyworth will be heading to Japan after his *A Journey to the Land of the Rising Sun* presentation wowed the judges. He will be travelling around interesting sites in Japan, learning about the language and the culture as well as doing a homestay with a Japanese family.

The experience will help him on his quest for a career in international relations or politics.

Natasha Brickstock was the second winner and she will be travelling to America following her *The Psychology Behind Art: New York* presentation. Whilst there, she will visit museums such as The MET, Guggenheim and The Museum of Modern Art where she will be looking at the impact of mental illness on artists and their work. This experience will be informative for Natasha as she looks ahead to the future where she aims to study Medicine at university and then may go on to Psychiatry.



BRILLIANT BIOLOGISTS

Upper Sixth scientists scooped an impressive haul of medals when they competed in the British Biology Olympiad.

This year there were over 7,500 participants from across the country and Stockport Grammar had an excellent result with nine out of the 12 pupils entered receiving medals.

Peter Withers and Paul Wong won Gold medals, putting them in the top six percent in the country.

Natalie Ho, Sairah Naseer, Jessie Brook and Natasha Brickstock were awarded Silver medals and Rosalind Walkley, Francesca Bailey and Hannah Hughes won Bronze medals.

PUPILS GET INTO THEIR STRIDE DURING DANCE WORKSHOPS

Boys in both the Junior and Senior School were put through their paces as they took part in dance workshops thanks to STRIDE, a Greater Manchester dance project for young men aged between 10-20 years old.

Dance teacher Mrs Abi Downing said: **"It was great to welcome STRIDE into the school, giving our boys the opportunity to see a professional male dancer at work. The pupils really immersed themselves in the experience and I am looking forward to providing some more opportunities for boys to dance in school."**



Picture by Stuart Jackson at Picture Portrait.

SKYDIVE AND MOVIE NIGHT HELP RAISE MONEY FOR SCHOOL CHARITY

A competition held in aid of school charity Educaid Sierra Leone, resulted in Languages teacher Mr Rob Grundy being chosen to complete a sponsored skydive.

Pupils were asked to purchase a raffle ticket which allowed them to vote for which teacher they would like to take part in the skydive.

The competition captured the pupils' imagination and they raised over £700 for the charity.

A movie themed concert held in the Hallam Hall raised over £800 for Educaid and Marple Band.

The event saw Marple Band perform a variety of tracks from films including *2001 A Space Odyssey*, *Pirates of the Caribbean* and *Brassed Off*.



Girls and boys have regular opportunities to enjoy dance in school as part of the co-curricular programme and in PE lessons.

SPORTS

KATELYN SWIMS TO SUCCESS

Fourth Year pupil Katelyn Bergin demonstrated her talent in the pool as she gained eight medals at the Amateur Swimming Association Nationals.

From the nine events she entered at the Ponds Forge International Sports Centre in Sheffield, Katelyn progressed to finals in eight. She was awarded the title of National Junior Champion in the 50m backstroke, the 100m backstroke and the 100m fly and she also bagged silver medals in the 100m and 200m individual medleys and the 50m fly. Finally, competing alongside fellow Stockport Metro swimmers, she achieved a bronze medal in the 4x100m women's medley relay and a bronze in her closing event of the 400m individual medley.



Katelyn, who trains eight times a week, said: **"Before the Nationals started I was a mixture of nervous and excited as it was a big competition with people from all over the country taking part. I was very pleased with the medals I won and proud that I was able to give my best."**

RUGBY TEAMS CELEBRATE OUTSTANDING SEVENS SEASON

Our U18s won the Cheshire Sevens and then got to the Bowl Final at the National Schools Sevens at Rosslyn Park, topping their group after playing and winning 10 games in two days.

The U15s got to the final of the U15 AKS, Lytham Sevens. The U14s were finalists at the Cheshire Sevens and semi-finalists at the Wirral GS Sevens.

The U13s won their group at the Cheshire U13 Sevens and also topped their group at the National Schools Sevens at Rosslyn Park.

The U12s won the Brian Bason U12 Sevens held at Audenshaw School and finished runners up at the Wirral GS Sevens.





VICTORY FOR OUR GIRLS

Our U15 Netball girls won the Independent Schools Netball Cup plate competition. They defeated The Red Maids' School 42-34 in a tough final.

The team also claimed victory at the County Tournament at Wright Robinson College. They won in impressive fashion and were undefeated all morning beating Cheadle Hulme, Bury Grammar, Altrincham Grammar, Bolton School, Withington, St Bede's, St Gabriel's and Manchester High.

The U13 netballers won the Stockport Schools' Netball tournament. The team were undefeated and beat Cheadle Hulme School 4-2 in the final.



HOORAY FOR OUR HOCKEY TEAMS

The U13 Hockey girls have cause for celebration after winning the Stockport Schools' Tournament. They beat Marple Hall, Bramhall High and Cheadle Hulme to win the title.

Our 1st XI won the Greater Manchester Schools' Hockey tournament just two days after they competed at the National Finals for the fourth consecutive year. The 1st XI were also crowned champions of the Cheadle Sevens tournament, conceding just one goal throughout the whole tournament.

Upper Sixth pupil and 1st XI Hockey team member Lily Wolstenholme has been selected to receive a £1,000 SportsAid Award from MyLotto24. Lily was nominated for the award by England Hockey, for whom she plays in the U18 squad, and the money will help support her travel costs to practices and games when she starts university in September.

Upper Sixth pupil Lauren Hunt has been selected for England Hockey U21s and was part of the team that took on the USA U21s at Bisham Abbey.

GEORGE SIGNS PROFESSIONAL CONTRACT FOR ENGLAND SEVENS

Head Boy and 1st XV Rugby captain George Chatterton has signed a one year contract to train and play with England Sevens.

The Upper Sixth pupil is one of just four players selected from across the country and starts his career as a professional rugby player in July. He has a busy year ahead with national and international tournaments lined up.

After being selected in a 23 man training squad following an Academy weekend at the end of April, he was picked for the England IPF squad for the Greene King IPA Sevens held at Bury St Edmunds earlier this month.

George, who has been training with Sale Sharks' first team following strong displays for their under 18 and Jets sides, will look to continue his 15 a-side career and start a university degree at the conclusion of his England Sevens contract.

While at Stockport Grammar School, George has enjoyed great success as 1st XV captain, leading his team to the 2016 Cheshire Cup Final at the 12,000 seater AJ Bell Stadium, winning the Cheshire Sevens and reaching the Bowl Final of the National Schools Sevens at Rosslyn Park.

George said: "Rugby has always been my passion so to be given an opportunity like this is a dream come true and I'm determined to make the most of it."



FOOTBALL SEASON KICKS OFF WITH ISFA CALL UPS

Our footballers have reason to cheer with a number of selections for Independent Schools Football Association (ISFA) squads.

Fifth Year pupil Max Keigher has been chosen to be part of the full U16 squad. During a two-day camp at St George's Park, Max's ISFA team beat Notts County 6-3 and Chesterfield 3-1 and over the next few months they face youth teams from a number of other league clubs as well as going on a tour to Berlin.

Second Year pupil Sam Carr is also celebrating after being selected to join the ISFA's North West U13 squad for the forthcoming season.

Head of Football Mr Rob Bowden said: "Sam will be tested against some excellent academy sides before the national tournament, whilst Max's 'international get together' at St George's Park was a great experience for him."

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS



PRE-RECEPTION PUPILS GO GINGERBREAD CRAZY

Our youngest pupils have been finding out all about the Gingerbread Man thanks to a range of fun activities.

The children took part in a role play in the Pre-Reception's garden by choosing a character and using masks and puppets.

A gingerbread café was set up to help pupils develop their counting skills and reinforce number recognition by taking orders and using play money.

The children's creative skills were also developed when making their own gingerbread people using ginger scented playdough, before decorating them with buttons and coloured pompoms.

Jessica Storey enjoyed the creative element and said: "I liked baking the gingerbread man and it was fun using the raisins as buttons."

PITCH PERFECT PERFORMANCES

The Junior School Performing Arts Concert saw over 200 parents and relatives watch pupils across a mix of years perform musical and spoken pieces.

The concert allowed established groups like the choir and orchestra to showcase their talents as well as providing a great opportunity for a number of new groups such as ukulele and guitar, percussion and Superstrings to perform for the first time.

PROUD PUPILS SELECTED FOR GREATER MANCHESTER SQUADS

A number of our Junior School sportswomen are celebrating after being selected for Greater Manchester squads.

Year 6 pupils Anna Wilkinson and Amaya North have been chosen to represent Greater Manchester U12s in Hockey after coming through trials that tested their advanced passes and match skills.

Charli-May Barnett, in Year 5, also had cause for celebration after being selected to represent Greater Manchester Schools in Cross Country.



SPACE DISCOVERY AT JODRELL BANK

Year 5 pupils got up close to the world-famous Lovell telescope as they learnt all about space and planets on a visit to the Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre.

The group used a clockwork solar system to learn about the earth, sun and planets; walked the Planet Path to discover the scale of the solar system; and used interactive exhibits to find out more about the universe.

An interactive workshop allowed pupils to find out about the skills needed to be an astronaut, scientist or engineer and they learnt about British astronaut Tim Peake. Mission training and rocket demonstrations preceded the chance for pupils to control a robot arm and witness a controlled explosion of rocket fuel.

The Inflatable Planetarium interactive workshop enabled pupils to explore the night sky and visible planets, view the seasonal constellations and observe the moon.

Stephen Monk said: "Jodrell Bank was a fascinating trip. We had a busy day learning about the seasons, day and night and the planets of our Solar System. We learnt how a rocket is launched in one of the workshops and watched an explosive demonstration about the power of rocket fuel. I would love to go back again."





LEARNING ABOUT THE PAST

Year 6 pupils got dressed up for the occasion as they visited the Merseyside Maritime Museum at the Albert Docks Liverpool.

The museum contains a variety of objects associated with the social and commercial history of the port of Liverpool and it currently has an exhibition about the city's links to the Titanic.

The pupils donned life jackets and a wide variety of hats as they got a feel for life on the ill-fated ship. They also designed posters as they looked into the class system and slavery as the same building also houses the International Slavery Museum.

PUPILS HAVE A CRACKING TIME IN THE CAPITAL

Year 6 pupils had a busy and enjoyable couple of days visiting the highlights of London and touring the Harry Potter Studios.

Their first day saw them take in The Globe Theatre, Buckingham Palace, St. James's Park, Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey before they enjoyed West End show, *Matilda*.

The following day they visited the Harry Potter Studios where the children were treated like VIPs, skipping the long queues, having a special room opened up for lunch and given lots of mementoes from the day.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT ON HEALTHY EATING TRAIL

Year 3 pupils visited Tesco Extra in Stockport to learn about fruits, vegetables and sugar as they went on a Healthy Eating Trail around the store.

Children were tasked with identifying as many different coloured fruits and vegetables as they could before learning more about portion sizes and the five-a-day rule.

The group were asked to taste and evaluate rye snacks, prunes, carrots, cucumbers, sunflower seeds, pitta and tzatziki before they had a go at creating their own sugar-free muesli and pizza base.

Nathan Collins said:

"I liked that you got to taste different things because I've never tried some of them before."

whilst Katherine Monk quipped:

"It was really fun trying the healthy snacks but I didn't like the prunes!"



Darcy Breen said of the trip:
"London was amazing! We saw Big Ben and Buckingham Palace and they were incredible! Matilda was outstanding and if you haven't seen it already, I would recommend you go. I especially liked the Harry Potter Studios – it was spellbinding!"



IN FINE VOICE

Pupils headed to Manchester Arena to participate in the annual Young Voices mass choir event.

After months of getting to grips with a huge variety of songs – from traditional to pop, African to Welsh and a cappella to full band accompaniment – the pupils found themselves rehearsing with over 8,000 other children led by choir master Mr David Lawrence.

Coloured lighting effects, mini torches in the dark and brilliant dancing from Urban Strides ensured a magical evening for everyone.



BRINGING SCIENCE TO LIFE

Year 4 visited The World of Glass as part of their science topic on states of matter.

The pupils found out how glass used to be made, explored the tunnels under the factory furnace, watched glass being blown and shaped and even designed and painted their own glasses to take home.



PUPILS TOOK PART IN A RANGE OF ACTIVITIES TO CONTRIBUTE
£5,083

PUPILS TAKE PRIDE IN FUNDRAISING FOR LEO THE LION

Pupils proved they were fantastic fundraisers as they supported Leo Keefe, a four-year-old boy suffering from a rare brain cancer.

Leo's family hoped to raise £150,000 so that they could take their son to the USA for proton beam therapy treatment. Our pupils took part in a range of activities to contribute £5,083.

A Bob-a-Job campaign was set up where boys and girls got their hands dirty doing a host of Jobs at home – earning a 'bob' for each task they completed. The pupils washed pots, cleaned out chickens, washed dogs and did the hoovering. Pupils also raised money by selling Leo the Lion teddies, keyrings and wristbands.

In the Senior School, Mr Dominic Breffit had his beard shaved off after pupils in his House reached the fundraising target he had set for them.

ART ATTACK

Year 6 looked at the use of line and pattern in David Hockney's pool paintings of the 1960s and took inspiration from Hokusai's Great Wave to develop work based on a theme of water. They worked on ceramic tiles with inks to create unique water themed abstract compositions, working into the patterns created by the inks using permanent pens. The project also included some 3D sculpture work using wire and clay, distressed fabric and dyed PVA glue. Watercolour techniques were also explored on paper along with printing, masking and stencilling.

STEP BACK IN TIME

Year 1 pupils enjoyed an action packed visit to Quarry Bank Mill which saw them take a fascinating tour. They were able to card wool and spin it into yarn using a wheel; try hand weaving and see a spinning jenny and automated weaving looms in action.



SUPER SAFARI

Year 3 pupils had an amazing day of adventure and excitement as they spent the day at Knowsley Safari Park.

The girls and boys learnt lots of facts about safari parks and found out how

animals survive in the wild. They were told about endangered animals and the threats that are posed to them.

They also visited the bat house and had a session in the Discovery Centre.



PRE-RECEPTION PUPILS LEARN MORE THAN THE BEAR NECESSITIES

Pre-Reception children enjoyed a bear themed week as they took part in activities with bears of all shapes, sizes and colours.

Storytime was interactive as pupils joined in with the *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* story by role playing with masks and puppets and trying out different bear voices! The exercise was a great way for them to learn about story sequencing whilst they boosted their creative skills by transforming the home corner into the three bears' cottage and painting the characters.

The boys and girls then ventured into the garden and the playground as they excitedly followed the bear footprints on a number of trails. Whilst doing so, they used and learnt about positional language.

The children also developed their mathematical skills by counting and sorting bears by size, participating in games using dice and having a go at bear bingo.

HEART TO HEART

Biologist Mr Knowles, a parent of one of the Junior School teachers, spoke to Year 6 pupils about the heart and the circulatory system. Pupils were intrigued to find out more about how the heart works and they got to see it in more detail as Mr Knowles dissected an animal's heart in front of them.

WONDERFUL WORDSMITHS

Pupils demonstrated their creative way with words as they took part in the annual poetry competition and BBC Radio 2's 500 Words challenge.



Senior School English teacher and Head of Lower School Mrs Helen Lawson chose Alexander Johnson, who read William Ernest Henley's *Invictus*, as the overall winner.

Samarth Varma won the Year 3 and 4 group and Nicholas Turner the Year 5 and 6 group.

In BBC Radio 2's 500 Words competition, the winners were: Katerina Yoncheva (Year 6); Joshua Roberts (Year 5); Christian Woodworth (Year 4); Harry Coles (Year 3) and Maisie Holgate (Infants).

PUPILS HAVE A (O)MEGA TIME ON GREEK DAY



Year 3 pupils donned their togas and tunics, danced to traditional music and designed pottery as they celebrated Greek Day.

As part of the Humanities curriculum, pupils study the nature and achievements of an ancient civilisation and with such a rich history to work with, the boys and girls loved getting involved in a multitude of Greek activities.

Pupils learnt the Greek alphabet before writing their names on clay tablets. They also designed pottery; tried their hand at Greek dancing and enjoyed a banquet of olives, pitta, houmous, feta, kofta, kebabs, Greek yoghurt and tzatziki.



AUDIENCE TAKEN TO A WHOLE NEW WORLD AT YEAR 6 PRODUCTION

Year 6 pupils put on two captivating and magical performances of the Disney classic *Aladdin*.

Boys and girls demonstrated their amazing acting ability as they took the audience on a journey to Agrabah.

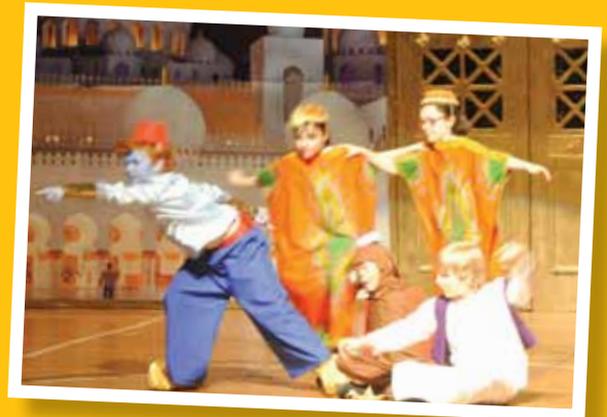
Lead roles were played by Jack Purves, Phoebe Ferris, Mason Peters, Mackenzie Shropshire, Amelie Batey, George Brown, Remi Fadahunsi and Matthew Derbyshire.

Speaking about her part in the play, Phoebe Ferris said:

"I was really excited when I found out I was going to be playing Jasmine and I couldn't wait to put her dress on as it was so pretty. The play was a fun experience and I would definitely recommend it to everyone."

Mrs Ruth Cole, who produced and directed the show along with Mrs Alison Sullivan, said:

"In the words of the song, our pupils were 'shining, shimmering and splendid' in their two outstanding performances. Congratulations to each and every one of them."



SEASIDE FUN ON YEAR SIX FOOTBALL TRIP

Our Year 6 footballers were blessed with beautiful weather as they went on their annual trip to the Fylde coast.

On the first day, the school's A and B teams faced Bolton School before exploring the beach.

The next day, the group visited the playground at Stanley Park before a challenge match between themselves on the all-weather surface.

With the sun shining, the boys ate their lunch on Blackpool promenade before strolling to Bloomfield Road to watch the Blackpool v Hartlepool United match. Captain James Carr enjoyed his time at the seaside saying:

"The weather was fantastic and we all had a great time. My favourite part of the trip was playing takedown tig on the beach and trying to run out to the sea's edge. I also found out that Bloomfield Road served tasty rock!"

