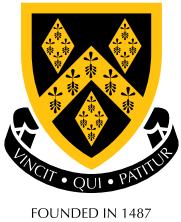


# TAKING STOCK /

Stockport Grammar  
School Newsletter



**Issue 67**  
Autumn 2017



**EXPLORERS  
REACH NEW  
HEIGHTS IN  
BORNEO**

**Page 3**

**PUPILS EMBRACE THE  
GREAT OUTDOORS IN  
GRASMERE**

**YOUNG ENTERPRISE  
TEAM REACH THE  
NATIONAL FINAL**

**CELEBRATING  
EXCELLENT  
EXAM RESULTS**

**CRACKING TIME  
IN CASTLETON**

**Page 16**

**Page 5**

**Page 7**

**Page 8**

# OUT AND ABOUT

## FABULOUS TIME HAD ON FRENCH EXCHANGE TRIP

Fourth Year pupils spent an exciting week in Paris as they made the return trip to visit their French exchange partners at Collège Sévigné in the beautiful 5ème arrondissement.

The group took in sights including the Sorbonne, Luxembourg Gardens, the Pantheon and Notre Dame as well as attending several school lessons with their hosts.



Ethan Howgate was impressed by Paris. He said:  
**"It was great to spend time in such a beautiful city."**

Charlie Escott added: **"It was interesting getting an insight into what French pupils learn in school."**



## PSYCHOLOGY PUPILS ENJOY A DAY AT THE ZOO

Psychology pupils from the Lower Sixth attended an interactive workshop on courtship behaviour and the evolution of intelligence on a visit to Chester Zoo. The pupils then ventured out into the sun so that they could see primate behaviour up-close.



## MUSICIANS EXCEL ON CONCERT TOUR TO THE RHINELAND

Pupils from all year groups enjoyed a highly successful Music tour of the Rhineland in Germany.

A demanding schedule included four concerts and a prestigious invitation to sing at a midday service in Cologne Cathedral.

The traditional concerts were given at the Pfarrkirche in Zeltingen-Rachtig and Kurpavillon in Bad Münster and included performances from the First Orchestra, String Orchestra, Chamber Choir, Junior Chamber Choir and Chorus.

These programmes featured the first movements of Mozart's *Symphony No. 40* and Bottesini's *Double Bass*.

*Concerto*, a selection of Piazzolla Tangos, various short sacred and secular choral items and culminated in a rousing rendition of Vivaldi's *Gloria*.

Lighter outdoor performances were given at the Stadtfest in Andernach and as part of the Kulturfest festival in Bingen. These featured the Concert Band, Big Band, Wind Orchestra, Saxophone Quartet, Wind Quintet, Junior Chamber Choir and Chorus.

Head of Music, Mr Michael Dow, said: **"The pupils should all be congratulated on their outstanding singing and playing throughout the tour."**



## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

As they contemplate their next steps, Lower Sixth pupils visited the University of Oxford to have a look around the prestigious institution and speak to current students and staff.



## JUNGLE ADVENTURE TAKES PUPILS TO NEW HEIGHTS

Intrepid explorers embarked on an exciting expedition to Borneo where they spent 21 days trekking through the jungle, climbing South East Asia's tallest mountain, scuba diving and helping out with community projects.

Sixth Form pupils took the lead in planning the trip and managed their own finances, accommodation, food and transportation.

The travelling party flew from Manchester to Kota Kinabalu via Heathrow and Kuala Lumpur. Their first few days were spent in Sepilok where they were able to see orangutans, sun bears and the long and pink-tailed macaques on an unforgettable forest canopy walk.

The group completed a Padi Scuba Diving course and enjoyed snorkelling amongst a host of sea creatures including black tip reef shark, turtles, lion fish, moray eels, blue spotted sting rays, squid, lobsters and clown fish.

The highlight of the trip was a trek up Mount Kinabalu, the tallest mountain in South East Asia, with pupils pushing themselves to the limit to be rewarded with stunning views across the whole of Borneo from the summit.

A short stay in Tampat Do Aman in Kudat saw the group walk to the tip of Borneo as well as helping local labourers to complete a community project and taking part in the village sports day.



## ARTISTIC INSPIRATION

Lower Sixth and Fourth Year pupils visited Yorkshire Sculpture Park for research for their coursework and GCSE and A-level portfolios.

The Art department ran a workshop looking at key sculptures in the park by Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth and a temporary show displaying the work of Tony Cragg which impressed the pupils in both scale, form and construction.



## PARLIAMENT VISIT WHETS PUPILS' POLITICAL APPETITE

Pupils from the Fourth Year and the Sixth Form travelled to London to visit the Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court with the aim of developing their understanding and interest in Law, Politics and International Relations.



## HISTORY TRIP TO GERMANY BRINGS STUDIES TO LIFE

IGCSE History pupils spent an engaging, educational and enlightening week in Munich, Nuremberg and Berlin.

After arriving in Germany, the girls and boys first visited the Bavarian city of Munich. The city offered them a particularly good insight into the history of Germany after the First World War and how the country began to rebuild itself.

A visit to the labour camp at Dachau was sombering and thought-provoking for the pupils as they learnt more about what happened at the first of the Nazis' concentration camps.

A tour of the Olympic Stadium in Berlin brought the trip to a close.

Alfred Bradshaw would definitely recommend the trip to others. He commented: **"The trip built upon what we learnt in class and it was good to experience the culture first-hand. We knew about many of the places from textbooks but it was really beneficial to see the sites in person."**



## CERN TRIP REVEALS CUTTING EDGE SCIENCE

Physicists visited CERN and the Palais des Nations on an eye-opening trip to Geneva, Switzerland.

At CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, pupils were able to observe the daily running of the centre, learn about the exciting projects that are carried out and have a tour of the facilities, which even included crossing the border into France!

The pupils were impressed with both the beauty and the history of the Palais des Nations as they visited the United Nations' office.

Sixth Former Elena Varadé García enjoyed the trip and was impressed by CERN: "I was surprised to find out that it is not mainly physicists who work at CERN, in fact most of the staff are engineers and IT technicians who make sure all the machines run smoothly and work tirelessly to improve the way things are done and devise new technology to help us discover more about our world's past, present and future."



## ENTERPRISING SECOND YEARS WIN HIGH PRAISE

Five Second Year pupils travelled to Telford in Shropshire to take part in the final of Ryman Stationery's National Enterprise Challenge.

The team, who won the school's qualifying round, presented confidently and in festival dress to the judges as they spoke about their 'GloFestival' idea – a five day festival where people can visit Alton Towers at night with the entire park based around the Galactica theme.



## PUPILS GAIN VALUABLE SKILLS ON BUSHCRAFT BREAK

Third Year pupils spent an action-packed weekend in the countryside as they took part in a Bushcraft experience at Cholmondeley Castle Gardens.

Throughout the weekend, the girls and boys were taught a number of essential survival lessons such as igniting fires, making shelters, hunting and basic first aid.

On the second day, the boys and girls were thrown in to a 'real life' situation where they had to utilise the first aid skills they had acquired. Mr Ehegartner, Mr Byrne, Mrs Goddard and Mr Hanson acted as the injured survivors of a plane crash and the pupils discussed and put into action everything they had learned.



### PUTTING GEOGRAPHY INTO PRACTICE

As part of their A-level fieldwork investigation Lower Sixth Geography pupils walked a transect through East Manchester – from Clayton to the Northern Quarter – to collect data.

The pupils conducted various geographical surveys at 15 sites and they were especially interested to see the impacts (both positive and negative) that sports-led regeneration has had on the area.

The geographers also travelled to the Holderness Coast to study coastal processes and landscapes.

## FASCINATING PHYSICS

Two teams of Third Year pupils enjoyed a trip to The King's School Chester to compete in a Physics Olympiad. Both teams did very well, finishing third and fourth out of 26 teams. One of the teams also got the best result in one of the five individual challenges.



## PUPILS EMBRACE THE GREAT OUTDOORS IN GRASMERE

Second Year pupils enjoyed canoeing, raft building, hiking, ghyll scrambling and canyoning on a four day trip to Grasmere in the Lake District.

The first day saw the group, who stayed at the Grasmere YHA, embark on a six hour walk that took in stunning scenery from the peaks of Heron Pike and Great Rigg.

The canoeing and raft building activities were based on Thirlmere. The canoes proved to be a challenge to manoeuvre for some and the raft builders had mixed success but everyone agreed it was a fantastic way to spend an afternoon.

The ghyll scrambling in Stoneycroft Ghyll proved as popular and enjoyable as ever with all pupils embracing the cold water and getting stuck into the slides and pools in their wetsuits.

Canyoning was a new activity for most pupils and the group showed great team spirit as they helped each other to descend steep waterfalls.

Outdoor Education Co-ordinator, Mr Adam Hughes, said: "The level of commitment and support shown for each other was outstanding and even the more nervous pupils helped support their teammates down tricky sections, whilst everyone cheered each other as they were lowered down steep waterfalls."

## CRACKING CHEMISTS CLAIM TOP PRIZE

Second Year pupils Luke Atkinson, Harry Brown, Tiane Mull and Emily Parkinson came first in the Salters' Institute Festival of Chemistry.

The event, which was held at The University of Manchester in conjunction with the Royal Society of Chemistry, welcomed teams from as far and wide as Buxton and Windermere.

The pupils had to complete two laboratory exercises – a forensic practical and a challenge where they had to plan and create a rainbow of chemical colours – before watching a demonstration on dramatic chemical reactions.



## SCALING THE HEIGHTS ON AMBITIOUS CLIMB

Our climbers have been testing themselves on a number of different rock faces throughout the year, including Castle Inn Quarry in North Wales. The boys and girls had a great day scaling the walls and buttresses, with some achieving 6c grade climbs.



## INTERNATIONAL DEBATE

The Democratic Republic of the Congo, religious freedom and the use of drones in combating poverty were just a few of the topics debated at a recent one day Model United Nations (MUN) Conference.

Lower Sixth pupil Callum Oakes was 'Commended' for representing the United States in the Human Rights Council and Third Year pupil James Pickup was 'Highly Commended' for representing Mexico in the Sci-Tech and Media Committee.

# SCHOOL LIFE

## BRILLIANT BIOLOGISTS

Congratulations to the 33 Fourth Year pupils who were awarded a certificate in the National Biology Challenge, a competition run by the Royal Society of Biology and sponsored by the BBSRC (Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council).

Twelve pupils won Gold, eight won Silver and 13 won Bronze. These results put them amongst the highest achieving pupils in the country for their biological knowledge.



## DELVING INTO THE PAST

Dr Alistair Dickins from the University of Manchester's History Department visited Lower Sixth History pupils to deliver a lecture, seminar and source work on the Russian Revolution of 1917, which is part of their new A-level course.

The pupils looked at the background of the period leading up to the Revolution and they were given the task of reading and examining a memoir from that period and giving a presentation on it.

## MUSICAL SHOWCASE LETS PUPILS SHINE

First Year pupils showcased their new-found musical skills at a series of performances in front of their teachers and classmates.

Every pupil entering the school is given the opportunity to receive tuition on a number of string, woodwind and brass instruments from specialist teachers throughout their first year.

The instruments on offer include flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone, cello, double bass, trumpet, cornet, horn, euphonium and baritone horn.

Anna Whitehall, who has joined the Beginners Woodwind Ensemble since taking up the clarinet, said:

**"I have enjoyed learning how to play an instrument and I really like performing. I will definitely carry on with the clarinet and am looking forward to doing my first exam and joining the Junior Band soon."**



## RAPPER'S VISIT SPARKS GENDER EQUALITY DISCUSSION

Third Year pupils spent the day discussing gender equality with rapper, beatboxer and poet Testament.

He spoke to the boys and girls about the importance of tolerance in society and his new show *Woke* which confronts misogyny in hip-hop.

At lunchtime, Testament performed an improvised rap in the Library after asking pupils for suggestions on advice he could give to his daughter about gender equality.



## YOUNG ENTERPRISE TEAM REACH THE NATIONAL FINALS

InStock Technologies represented the North West at the National Young Enterprise Finals in London.

The team, made up of Lower Sixth Formers, went into the final as one of the top six Young Enterprise teams in the country after winning the North West Final, which was held at the University of Central Lancashire.

The group, who promote virtual reality headsets, won a series of Young Enterprise awards in the run up to the National Final.

At the Stockport, Tameside and Rochdale regional final they were named 'Overall Winner' after producing a company report, preparing a trade stand and presenting to judges, teachers and other schools.

In the Greater Manchester final, the team were crowned 'Best Overall Company' and won the award for 'Best Company Report'. The judges stated that they were **"one of the most professional Young Enterprise teams we have ever seen."**

The group then visited Pricewaterhouse Coopers in Manchester to take part in a Dragons' Den style pitch. They explained how the headsets worked and spoke about the successes of the business to date. Some of the team also headed to the Trafford Centre to take part in their Young Enterprise Trade Fair where they received the award for 'Best Product/Service Stand'.



## SAM AND BELLA ARE MASTERCHEF CHAMPIONS

Sam Hall and Bella Platt were crowned winners at this year's MasterChef competition.

Third Year pupil Sam picked up the Middle School trophy after his starter of scallop and sweetcorn puree with crispy parma ham followed by a main of rack of lamb with broccoli and stilton puree, charred cauliflower, crispy potatoes and red wine sauce wowed the judges.



First Year pupil Bella took the Lower School crown with her main of glazed mirin salmon with rice and spring onions and dessert of lemon meringue pie seeing off the competition.

Sam secured the overall title and a £100 voucher for The Grill on the Alley after impressing their head chef Tom Poynter and manager Viv Taylor-Fletcher.

Second Years Minnie Hall and Fatimah-Zahra Hassan came joint third in the overall competition.





## OUTSTANDING EXAM SUCCESS

Upper Sixth pupils achieved a 100% pass rate at A Level with almost three-quarters of results awarded at A\* to B. Their success sees our pupils go onto challenging courses at the country's most competitive universities, including six to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. From a year group of 109 pupils, 27 were awarded all A\* and A grades.

Amongst the top performing students were Head Girl Georgia Burns, who got three A\*s and an A and will go on to study English at Selwyn College, Cambridge, and Francesca Bailey, who got two A\*s and an A and is looking forward to starting a degree in Natural Sciences at Durham University. Francesca was part of the 1st XI Hockey squad that reached the National Finals for four consecutive years, winning in 2015.

Oliver Robinson will start his journey to becoming an actuary following a Maths degree at Edinburgh University after he achieved an A\* and two As.

Headmaster Mr Andrew Chicken said: **"I am delighted for our pupils. With the support of their parents and teachers they have worked very hard to attain excellent examination results which will enable them to embark upon the next stage of their education with confidence and enthusiasm. They have achieved this against a background of**

**considerable uncertainty in the national examination system and university admissions procedures. In their commitment to a wide range of co-curricular and voluntary activities, they have made an outstanding contribution to our school community and developed skills which are highly prized by universities and employers. We wish them every success in their future paths."**

At GCSE, over 81% of results awarded were A\* to B. Forty pupils out of the year group of 135 achieved at least nine A\* and A grades.

Among the top performing students were Megan King, who got 11A\*s and will now study Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Art in the Sixth Form and Gabriel Stewart who got 10 A\*s and will study Biology, Chemistry, History and Maths in the Sixth Form. Nikita Murray got 11 A\*s and will study Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Classics in the Sixth Form.

Musical friends Faye Sanders, Charlotte Jones and Grace Patterson were celebrating achieving 25 A\*s and five As between them. The trio, who enjoyed the school's music tour of the Rhineland after their exams finished, are looking forward to life in the Sixth Form.

Visit the school website for more information about our 2017 exam results.



## EVENTS



### CRICKET LEGEND PRESENTS SPEECH DAY PRIZES

Former England cricket captain Alec Stewart OBE was the guest speaker at this year's Speech Day celebrations at The Stockport Plaza.

Mr Stewart, who is the second most capped English cricketer of all time in Test matches and third most capped in One Day Internationals, visited the school in the morning to give aspiring Junior and Senior School cricketers the benefit of his experience at a practice in the nets. Mr Stewart also got to meet up with fellow ex-England cricket player and current Stockport Grammar School cricket coach, Jimmy Ormond.

In the afternoon, Mr Stewart took his seat on the stage at The Stockport Plaza alongside Prime Warden of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths Judith Cobham-Lowe OBE, Chairman of Governors Christopher Dunn, Headmaster Andrew Chicken and President of the Old Stopfordians' Association Tim Stretton.

Mrs Cobham-Lowe continued the custom of presenting medals which have been especially designed and made by the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths to the Head Boy, George Chatterton and Head Girl, Georgia Burns.

### PROFESSIONAL DANCER PUTS PUPILS THROUGH THEIR PACES

First and Second Year pupils had the opportunity to participate in a workshop with professional dancer Rob Bell who works at The Lowry in Salford with the Centre for Advanced Training in Dance.



Pupils were led through a contemporary dance technique class before they were shown some creative and choreographic tasks inspired by a painting by MC Escher.



### GOLF DAY RAISES £7,000 FOR THE BURSARY FUND

Eighteen teams of keen golfers took to the course at Stockport Golf Club for our annual Bursary Golf Day in association with Vernon Building Society.

It is the school's goal to offer as many local children as possible the opportunity to come to the school regardless of their parents' ability to pay by supporting their education with a means-tested bursary. The Bursary Golf Day, now in its fourteenth year, raised £7,000 for the Bursary Fund.

The team from F.R Monkhouse Intersport won the competition, followed by SAS Daniels and Edoooco. Stephen Bullock won the 'Longest Drive' at the 10th and Alan Bullock won the 'Nearest the Pin' at the 16th with a hole in one. Visit the website for more information about the Bursary Golf Day.

### WINNING BOOKS

The Senior School's Carnegie shadowing group assembled in the Library to watch the CILIP Carnegie & Kate Greenaway Children's Book Awards ceremony.



The boys and girls saw their favourite book, *Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys, claim the CILIP Carnegie Medal with *There is a Tribe of Kids* by Lane Smith taking the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal.



### LOWER SIXTH PUPILS TAKE TO THE STAGE

The Lower Sixth Form play – in which the cast and crew have a week to learn their lines, design the set and stage the production – saw pupils perform Ken Ludwig's comic play *Moon Over Buffalo*.



### AN INSIGHT INTO UNIVERSITY LIFE

Lower Sixth pupils enjoyed a two day UCAS Higher Education conference at the school to help them prepare for university.

Guest speakers included Jenny Sloan, from the University of Manchester, who gave an insight on choosing the right subject and university; business communications specialist Ben Woollen discussed how the pupils might go about presenting themselves more positively at interview; Ania Partyka from Liverpool John Moores University focused on student life and Elizabeth Farnhill, from the University of Sheffield, talked about study skills.

Alongside our guest speakers, our 2016 leavers came back to school to give talks on their experience of the application process, their subjects of study, gap years and the joys of university life.

Parents were given the opportunity to find out more about the path to Higher Education during an Information Evening, which included a comprehensive overview of student finance from Stephanie Lee at the University of Manchester.

### EXPLORING THE SOLAR SYSTEM

First Year and Junior School pupils went stargazing when a planetarium visited the school.

Hayley Collins said: **"I really enjoyed the 3D feel in the movies and it was fun and interesting to learn how to direct ourselves around in the dark at night,"** whilst Rahul Valluri added: **"We found out where to look for the plough and that there are four big craters on the moon that make a face shape."**



## COMPETITION SUCCESS AT PRESTIGIOUS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Musical pupils in both the Senior and Junior school had a successful time at the Alderley Edge Music Festival.

The Senior School's Junior Chamber Choir, which is comprised of pupils from First to Third Year, came first in their category and received the Rowell Cup. The Junior School's choir, which was made up of 37 pupils from Years 5

and 6, performed *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by John Rutter and *Sing a Jubilant Song* by Dave and Jean Perry as they won their section on their first visit to the festival.

There was also reason for the Junior School's orchestra to cheer as they came joint first in their section of the festival.

## SUMMER REUNION BRINGS OLD STOPS TOGETHER

Stockport Grammar School welcomed 200 Old Stopfordians, current and former staff and their guests to this year's Retirements and Summer Reunion barbecue.

The event, which included an Old Stops cricket match, gave staff and visitors a chance to say goodbye to departing staff.



## PUPILS' WORK GOES ON DISPLAY AT ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION

Visitors from across the country joined governors, staff and pupils at this year's GCSE and A-level Art, Design and Technology Exhibition.

The event showcased the imaginative and inspired work created by pupils in Fifth Year and Sixth Form in which they employed a range of media and techniques including painting, sculpture, dypoint and lino prints, colographs, monoprints, ceramics, plaster, batik and silk painting and photography.

Head of Art, Mr Richard Davies, said: "Each of the boys and girls can be tremendously proud of all they have achieved in mounting such a fantastic display. The amount of positive comments received from the guests who came to the opening night is testament and recognition of the artistic talent that continues to flourish at the school."



## THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE

Second Year pupils enjoyed hearing from visiting speakers, including a number of Old Stopfordians, offering their advice on a range of careers including finance, fashion, veterinary science and information technology.



## TREMENDOUS TURNOUT AT ANNUAL MATHS COMPETITION

176 Year 5 children from local primary schools took part in our annual Maths Competition.

The competition, which was split into two sessions on the day, saw teams of four pit their maths wits against each other across three rounds which tested both team work and individual skills in a series of fun activities including relay races.

Greenbank Preparatory School won the morning session while Romiley Primary School were victorious in the afternoon.

## SPORTS



### WELL DONE BOYS

Congratulations to our U12 Cricket team who reached the final of the Cheshire Cup to cap off a fantastic season.

## INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

Our U14 cricket boys were delighted to face Sunshine Coast Grammar School when the team from Queensland visited the UK for a tour.

The match continues our 10 year association with the school, during which time we have visited them twice in Australia whilst they have made the return journey three times.

Our Aussie friends emerged victorious in the tie at Trent College and also faced City of London Freemen's School and Stowe School during their tour.

## FOOTBALL FOCUS

The school hosted an U13 girls' 7-a-side Independent Schools Football Association (ISFA) competition where they welcomed teams from across the area.



## AWESOME ATHLETES

It was a strong finish to the Athletics season for our Senior School pupils with high placings at a number of recent events.

In the 'B' Final of the English Schools' Athletics event at Victoria Park in Warrington, the inter boys and girls were placed fourth and seventh respectively.

At the North-West 'A' final at Robin Park in Wigan the junior boys came fourth and the girls tenth – beating schools from Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside and Cheshire.

The Athletics squads have performed brilliantly this year and, looking at the potential in these athletes, there are high hopes for next year.



Our 1st XV beat a team of Old Stopfordians 61-46 in the annual Rugby match.

## STUNNING PERFORMANCES SEE RECORDS BROKEN ON SPORTS DAY

Warren House were the big winners on sports day as they won both the Athletics Challenge Bowl and the T.J. Anderson Trophy – awarded to the House that has accrued the most Athletics Standards points.

Records were broken by Maya Anderson; Libby Porter; Albert Bradshaw; Tom Manton; Daisy Keigher; Oluwalayomi Phillips; Taylor Barnett and Lily Rathore.

The overall winners from each year were: First Year – Colleen Devlin and Miles Cooke; Second Year – Daisy Keigher and Oluwalayomi Phillips; Third Year – Lily Rathore and Hassan Khan and Fourth Year – Pippa Crook and Emilio Ramirez.

# ARTS

## DANCERS DAZZLE ON THE STAGE

Pupils from First to Fifth Year impressed the audience at this year's Lower and Middle School Dance Show, *Back To School*.

The show kicked off with the First and Second Year Dance Club performing *Revolting Children* from *Matilda* whilst the Third Year PE group's version of *Vogue* by Madonna was sandwiched between solo dances from Cam Wylie (contemporary), Fiona Telfer (tap) and Hayley Collins (modern jazz).

Emily Butler, Tahlia Smith and Fiona Telfer then performed a ballet to a John Williams' song before the Fourth Year Games group explored the themes of institutionalisation in a piece inspired by De Keersmaeker's *Rosas Danst Rosas*.

The First and Second Year tap group were up next with *Born to Hand Jive* from *Grease* before Lucy Snell and Cam Wylie changed tack with a hip hop dance. Emily Butler performed to Bette Midler's *The Rose* whilst things got funkier with a dance from the Third Year Street Jazz Club.

The First and Second Year Contemporary Club gave the show a more modern feel as they performed Max Richter's *Memories*, Tahlia Smith took to the stage again for a tap dance and Lilli Ashton and Ellie Rasheed swiftly followed her as they performed a mixed lyrical and acro piece.

Seven of the dancers then performed a piece inspired by Balletboyz's *The Murmuring* and Ellie Rasheed executed a lyrical style solo piece before everyone came on stage for the finale, a performance of *We're All in This Together*.

As well as the dancers, the lighting, sound, backstage, front of house and costume teams did a sterling job to ensure it was a memorable night for all involved.



## FESTIVAL SHOWCASES PUPILS' MAGICAL MUSICAL TALENTS

Musical pupils from First Year to the Sixth Form enthralled visitors at this year's Senior School Music Festival which was held in the Hallam Hall.

Ben Wood picked up first place in the First Year contest with his rendition of Lefèvre's *Sonata No 1*.

In the Second Year, Daniel Vincent impressed as he played *Allegro Concerto in Two Movements* by Mozart on the euphonium to win the contest.

Zoe Shah's Movement 1, *Violin Concerto in G* by Haydn picked up the top prize in the Third Year category.

In the junior vocal competition the winner was *She's Like The Swallow* by Ella Moran.

In the junior ensemble contest Lucy Grundy, Lola Gurton, Zoe Hon and Emily Hull won with their version of Miranda's *How Far I'll Go*.

The most promising Lower School musician title went to Third Year pupil Joshua Furtado-Mendes.

In the Fourth and Fifth Year competition, Sonu Thomas' piano interpretation of *Willy Wagglestick's Walkabout* secured first place in the instrumental solo contest.

In the vocal solos Lauren Suddards was victorious as she sang *Stormy Weather* by Arlen and Koehler.

Alex Jones played *Kicho* by Piazzolla on the double bass to win the Sixth Form prize.

Emily Howling won the vocal solo with *Minchin's Loud*.

Sisters Elsa and Zoe Shah picked up the senior ensemble crown with *Slavonic Dance in E Minor* by Dvořák.

Cups were won by Joanna Brown (Wind and Brass), Alex Jones (String and Adjudicator's Cup), George Zelhof (Piano) and Jess Lloyd (Flute).



# JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS



## YEAR 3 EXPLORERS VISIT GRASMERE

As part of their Humanities lessons, Year 3 pupils studied Grasmere and they took a trip to the Lake District village to explore its beautiful surroundings and put their classroom work into practice.

A bit of rain did not deter our hearty adventurers as they boarded a boat to cruise Lake Windermere. The pupils then went on a tour of the Beatrix Potter attraction and discovered that the author used the Lake District as her inspiration. They also learned about the plants she had grown and consequently drawn in her stories and



were even given some plants to bring back to school.

After a well-earned night's sleep at the Butcherly Howe youth hostel, the boys and girls woke up to some sunshine and the chance for a walk to see the spectacular waterfall, Aira Force.

Oscar Miller was impressed with the scenery. He said: **"It was really good when we were standing on the bridge looking over the waterfall."**



## FUN AT THE FARM

Pre-Reception pupils visited Stockley Farm Park in Northwich for a 'hands-on' countryside experience and to find out more about life on a farm.

The boys and girls were able to see and touch an array of animals such as rabbits, chicks, goats and lambs as they visited pets' corner and the animal shed. They also got the opportunity to bottle-feed the lambs and kids.

The pupils were then taken on a tractor ride around the site before visiting the stable to look at equipment for horses such as saddles, stirrups, bridles, riding hats and horse shoes. They also went on a bug hunt.

Talking about the trip Zayd Gurjee said: **"My favourite bit was when we went on the tractor"** whilst Krish Vaish enjoyed **"seeing the cows"**. Elijah Cope had a great time at the stables and had fun putting on the riding hat. James Woodsmith enjoyed **"feeding the sheep"** whilst Joshua Chamberlain **"loved the sandpit"**.



## TIME CAPSULE GIVES FUTURE PUPILS A TASTE OF LIFE IN 2017

Junior School pupils filled a time capsule with their favourite toys, books and school mementos and buried it in the school grounds.

Boys and girls from Reception to Year Six embarked on the project as part of the celebrations marking the centenary of the school's move to the Hallam site.

In lessons, they talked about what life was like 100 years ago and decided they would try and give future pupils a glimpse of life in 2017.

Toys including a Barbie, Beanie Babies, Lego, a fidget spinner and a Rubik's cube were put into the box alongside books by Roald Dahl and Jacqueline Wilson.

Food wrappers including chocolate bars, Heinz baked beans, Walkers crisps, Ritz crackers and a Coca Cola bottle were put in to show future pupils the kinds of things children eat and drink in 2017. Pupils also included a list of prices for everyday food items and gas and electricity bills.

Other information included average house prices, the most popular names for girls and boys, the top 5 pop songs, the new five pound note and various newspaper headlines.

To illustrate what life is like at school in 2017, pupils put in a school tea towel, a whole school photograph, a letter from the Headmaster, a brochure on the history of Stockport Grammar School, the school DVD, a school tie and the school teddy bear.

## BRIGHT BOOKS INSPIRE PRE-RECEPTION PUPILS

Pre-Reception pupils enjoyed being creative and getting their hands dirty after reading *Jack and the Beanstalk* and *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*.

They boosted their teamwork and gross motor skills and learnt about shapes and measurement as they used lots of coloured boxes to make a castle for the giant. Pupils also used much smaller cubes to measure beanstalks on a piece of paper.

They planted broad beans as they learnt to care for plants and find out how they grow.

The boys and girls got their hands even dirtier when they went on an insect hunt after reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. They developed their mathematical ability by counting the numbers of 'caterpillars' they found.



## IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO BE ENTERPRISING

Senior School Business and Economics teachers Miss Curl and Mr Young visited the Junior School to hold a number of enterprise sessions with Year 6 pupils.

After learning about the basics of business, the boys and girls were split into teams and tasked to design a sports kit. Whilst doing this they needed to think about their brand's name, logo and a slogan and they had to create a poster.

As well as exercising their creative skills, their mathematical ability was put to the test as they estimated the cost of the product, decided on a selling price and calculated their estimated profit.



## PICNIC AND PLAY IN THE PARK

Reception pupils spent the day exploring Tatton Park. Upon arrival the boys and girls went for a walk through the woods trying to find the Gruffalo and they enjoyed climbing on the logs and investigating the area looking for different signs of nature.



## GETTING CLOSER TO NATURE

As part of their Science curriculum on lifecycles, Year 5 pupils experienced a hands-on nature lesson with Jan Shone from the Cheshire Wildlife Trust.

The workshop, focusing on newts, started with an informative PowerPoint showing them habitats and the lifecycle of the newt. Each class then had the opportunity to carefully hold a great crested newt, carry out some newt research using iPads and ponder the question of whether newts would make good pets.



## UNDERSTANDING FINE ART

Year 4 pupils were introduced to British artists Bruce Munro and Jane Perkins as their Art Day took the theme of 'Recycled Art'.

Inspired by Van Gogh's *Sunflowers*, the children were encouraged to recycle a modern day object – in this instance a CD and its perspex case – to begin a collection of their own.

Their first CD was transformed into a weaving frame and the boys and girls worked within a palette of warm colours, using different textured yarns, to set up their circular weaving frame to form one of the flowers. Sunflower seeds were then planted in soil, in a clear CD case, so that the children could develop a unique line drawing recording the growth of their sunflower seeds.

## DARCY IS A RECORD BREAKER

The Athletics team members all reached the final for their disciplines at the AJIS tournament. A number gained medals and special mention goes to Darcy Breen who set a new high jump record.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CRICKETERS

Our cricketers won the recent IAPS 6-a-side competition during which they faced St Ambrose Preparatory School, Pownall Hall School and Altringham Preparatory School. They won all three of their games.



## HOORAY FOR THE GIRLS

Year 6 pupils Rosie Lear, Annalisa Griffiths, Aimee Reynolds, Amaya North, Libby Goodman and Darcy Breen won the U11 County Netball League and were runners-up in the Trafford and Oldham regional tournaments.



## PROMISING PERFORMERS

The Junior School Performing Arts Festival was light hearted and varied as attendees enjoyed a relaxing and informal evening.

The Orchestra and Junior Choir went for jazzy styles and numbers whilst Year 6 pupils performed Mozart and Ragtime in trios and duets.

Mrs Marston's 'LAMDA' pupils performed some short poems, the Ukulele group strummed *A Tuneful Tune* and the Drum group provided everyone with a sound piece evoking a journey through a tree jungle.





## PUPILS ARE ALL SMILES AFTER DENTIST VISIT

Anne Jepson from the Community Dental Service visited Pre-Reception and Reception to speak to pupils about dental hygiene.

Pre-Reception pupils also learnt about their bodies as they transformed the role play area into a doctor's surgery. The boys and girls explored with play medical equipment and learnt how to look after themselves and each other.



## PUPILS WIN PRIZES AT ANNUAL CELEBRATION

Vice-Chairman of Governors Philip Cuddy welcomed the audience to Junior School Prizegiving before the orchestra displayed their skills with *Habanera* by Bizet.

The choir enjoyed their chance to show their musical talents with two contrasting pieces, *Sing a Jubilant Song* by Dave and Jean Perry and *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by Rutter.

This year's Guest of Honour was Wendy Tarplee-Morris who started The Little Princess Trust with Simon Tarplee in 2006 in memory of their daughter, Hannah. She spoke about the work of the charity and thanked the pupils and parents for the support they have given.



### CLOSER TO NATURE

Year 1 pupils travelled to Lyme Park where they went on a nature walk to identify some of the plants and animals they have learnt about in their Science lessons.

The boys and girls created wild art from found natural materials in the style of sculptor, photographer and environmentalist Andy Goldsworthy.



## YEAR 6 PUPILS HAVE A CRACKING TIME IN CASTLETON

Year 6 pupils had an enjoyable and action-packed trip on the annual residential outing to the village of Castleton in Derbyshire.

Pupils took part in a range of activities including the shelter task which challenged them to work as a team of four to build a shelter which would not buckle as a bucket of water was thrown over it. They also learnt how to make a fire.

On the second day, the adventurers climbed Mam Tor hill, a tiring but enjoyable five hour trek which was rewarded with a trip to the sweet shop at the top.

Amelie Batey had a great time at Castleton: **"I loved all of it but the best part was the freedom. I also loved the animals – there were lambs, pigs and goats; they were adorable."**

## DOWNPOUR DOESN'T DAMPEN PUPILS' SPORTS DAY SPIRIT

Pupils completed a long jump, ball throw and a 50m sprint race.

Vernon won the Year 3 contest, Arden won the Year 4 and Year 6 contest and Warren won the Year 5 contest.

Infants competed against their friends in the nerf howler throw, sack race, relay race and the hurdles before sitting to enjoy the sprint races as a grandstand event. Pre-Reception children also tried hurdles, a bean bag throw and a shopping race.



## MUSEUM VISIT SPARKS AN INTEREST IN THE PAST

Year 6 pupils visited Staircase House and Stockport Museum as they delved into the past of Stockport's oldest town house.

The boys and girls got to discover how our ancestors lived from the 15th to the 20th centuries and learned how the house was brought back to life after a devastating fire.

