

# TAKING / STOCK

Stockport Grammar  
School Newsletter



Issue 68  
Winter 2018



REMEMBRANCE  
SERVICE OFFERS  
TIME TO REFLECT

Page 2



SPORTS  
VISITORS FROM  
OVERSEAS

Page 9



BRIGHT FUTURE  
BECKONS FOR  
MUSICAL TRIO

Page 10



YEAR 5 ENJOY  
ACTION PACKED  
RESIDENTIAL

Page 14

FIRST YEARS  
FORM FIRM  
FRIENDSHIPS

Page 6

# EVENTS

## SCHOOL HOSTS NATIONAL ANTI BULLYING PROGRAMME

The school was proud to welcome pupils from six local schools, academies and colleges for the latest Be Strong Online Ambassador training programme.



Provided by The Diana Award Charity, in partnership with Vodafone, the Be Strong Online campaign aims to provide pupils with the skills and knowledge needed to run online safety campaigns, assemblies and sessions in their school to help their peers increase their digital resilience.

They discussed a range of topics including cyberbullying, digital footprints, selfies, privacy settings and how to digitally detox.

Our pupils will now work with Mrs Helen Lawson, Head of Lower School, to provide support and information to all pupils in First, Second and Third Year. Ambassadors will continue to receive dedicated support and resources from the Diana Award team throughout the year to support their new roles.



## REMEMBRANCE SERVICE OFFERS TIME TO REFLECT

One hundred former pupils and dignitaries – including the Mayor of Stockport, Councillor Linda Holt; Cheadle MP Mary Robinson; Hazel Grove MP William Wragg; Councillor Wendy Meikle and Dr Robina Shah, Deputy Lieutenant of Greater Manchester – visited the school to take part in our annual Remembrance Day Service.

Following the service, the visitors took a seat in Hallam Hall to listen to talks from pupils who went on the recent Battlefields trip and musical performances.



## DEBATING DELIGHT

Our eight-strong Model United Nations team had a successful time representing Canada and Italy at the first conference of the academic year.

Lower Sixth pupil Murray Jallands collected the top award in the Disarmament committee as the outstanding delegate whilst fellow Sixth Former Adam Keyworth picked up a commendation in Human Rights. First time conference attendee Second Year Bella Platt also had reason to smile as she got a special mention.

Sixth Formers also took part in the 11th Northern Schools Modern Foreign Languages Debating Competition fielding teams in French, German and Spanish. SGS has gone from strength to strength in this competition, winning several times over the past few years.

Topics this year included 'Wars are Unavoidable', 'Ecology and Progress are Incompatible', 'A Formal Education is Key to Success' and 'Life was Better Before the Internet'.

All teams gave an outstanding performance with the German team, made up of Adam Keyworth and Cornelia Kolusi, winning both of their debates in the group stages and making it through to the semi-final.



## CREATE YOUR OWN FUTURE

Pupils receiving their certificates at the GCSE presentation evening were inspired to take control of their own future and become integral parts of the community.

Caroline Simpson, Corporate Director for Place at Stockport Council, spoke to pupils who are now in the Lower Sixth about exciting projects taking place in the town and encouraged them to get involved.

At the event, School Council Year Reps Megan King and William Howard spoke about their school experience and attendees were treated to a special slideshow made up of photographs from their time so far at SGS.

## EXPLORING ONLINE SAFETY

Sixth Formers welcomed Allison Havey, co-founder of The RAP (Raising Awareness and Prevention) Project, into school to talk about issues affecting teenagers in today's society.

The talk was the first of this year's Shaa Lectures, which form part of the pastoral support offered to our Sixth Form pupils.

In a presentation titled 'Social Skills for Life', Allison covered themes designed to give teenagers advice on personal safety as well as examining how social media is influencing attitudes, behaviours and expectations.



## FIRST FEMALE BISHOP OFFERS SOME TIMELY ADVICE

Bishop Libby Lane, who made history in January 2015 when she became the Church of England's first ever female Bishop, spoke to pupils in assembly and met with A level Religious Studies pupils.

In assembly, she spoke about pupils' sense of self-worth and the impact of modern society on young people's self confidence as well as offering pupils ways of dealing with their anxieties. She told them that her love of God gave her reassurance every day.

## CAKE AND COFFEE SALES HELP CHOSEN CHARITIES

Pupils and staff enjoyed making – and eating – cake to support two worthy causes.

£654 was raised for Macmillan Cancer Support through sales and donations with special mentions going to the Junior School who brought in £270 and Warren House who raked in £167.

For World Mental Health Day, Psychology pupils held a cake sale during which they also gave out leaflets on mental health issues and where to look for help. They raised an amazing £223 for Mind and boosted awareness of such an important topic.



# SCHOOL LIFE

## SGS HISTORIAN SCOOPS NATIONAL AWARD

The editorial team of SGS Historian are celebrating after their publication was named as joint 'Best School History Magazine' at the Young Historian Awards.

The award-winning team share the prize, a £100 book token, after judges praised the quality of the entry.

It is the second edition of the annual publication which comprises articles, book reviews and interviews on a certain theme. The theme for the latest edition was 'Greatest Conspiracy Theories' and saw articles on the Great Fire of London, JFK and the Mona Lisa and book reviews of *The Man in the High Castle* by Phillip K Dick and Chris Skidmore's *Bosworth – the Birth of the Tudors*.

The Editor, Sixth Former Persephone Hotchkies, said: **"I am proud of the team for winning the award – especially as it was at national level – and would definitely recommend that Lower Sixth historians take part as it is rewarding seeing your work published."**

The editorial team was Persephone Hotchkies, Robyn Clements, Josh Doyle, Will Spendlove, Max Jackson, Millie Johnson, Alex Grant, Richard Seed, Isobel Fraser and Finley Nolan.



## HARVEST DONATIONS BOOST COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Boys and girls in the Senior and Junior Schools collected food, toiletries and clothing to help those that are less fortunate than themselves.

Pupils in the Fourth Year took the items collected in the Senior School to The Wellspring, an organisation that looks after homeless people in Stockport.

Junior School pupils delivered food parcels to residents living in local sheltered housing and donated the remainder to The Wellspring. During a Harvest festival assembly, the children were taught exactly how their donations will help those in need.

Pre-Reception pupils also put together their own Harvest box which they were delighted to hand over to The Wellspring staff.



## MEET THE NEW YEAR REPS

Pupils chose their Year Representatives in the School Council Elections.

Following election as Form Representatives, pupils are allowed to stand as a Representative for their Year, a role which sees them attend regular meetings with key members of staff.

In order for pupils to make the most informed choice, all candidates answered questions in their Year Assembly explaining why they would best suit the position.

The winners were Jonathan Hyde and Ebony Murdoch (First Year); Alman

Hussain and Niamh Warburton (Second Year); Fatimah-Zahra Hassan and Torin Mills (Third Year); Georgia Fazakerley and Liam Oakes (Fourth Year) and Phoebe Christodoulou and Andrew Corcoran (Fifth Year).



First Year Winner – Zara Andrew



Second Year Winner – Anna Whitehall



Third Year Winner – Charlotte Wells

## PUPILS GET SNAP HAPPY

The standard of entries for this year's Lower School House Photography Competition was top class with a number of commendations offered in addition to the three year group winners.

The competition requested pupils to shoot 'An Unusual View of an Everyday Scene'. This could be at school, on their journey to school, at home or in their local environment.

Winners gained valuable house points and were presented with a digital storage device to help them save and develop future photography work.



# OUT AND ABOUT

## CHALLENGES COMPLETED AND FRIENDSHIPS FORGED ON FIRST YEAR RESIDENTIAL

First Year pupils got to know each other well during an activity-packed three day residential trip at Dearne Valley.

The girls and boys were encouraged to make new friends and interact with their form mates and other pupils across the year group.

Pupils took part in a range of team building and high rope activities including 'Jacob's Ladder', where they had to help each other up logs spaced at wide intervals, and 'High All Aboard', which saw pupils climbing a 30 foot telegraph pole before balancing on top of a platform no larger than a pizza box. Pupils also participated in a 'Night Line' which involved doing an obstacle course whilst blindfolded.

The activities enabled them to learn to work together to solve problems and allowed them to build teamwork and communication skills. In the evenings everyone settled down around the campfire to chat and get to know each other better.

Brooke Richards was nervous before the trip but was glad she went: **"I joined Stockport Grammar from another school so I didn't know too many people in the year but I had a great time at Dearne Valley. It is a great way to get to know people better and everyone was so encouraging."**

The trip helped Euan McIlwraith conquer his fear of heights: **"I am not a big fan of heights so it was great when I managed to complete 'Jacob's Ladder' and 'High All Aboard' thanks to everyone's encouragement. I liked the fact that we had some chill out time as it meant that we could socialise in the dorms and find out more about each other."**



## ART PUPILS SEARCH FOR INSPIRATION

Sixth Form pupils who are taking Art and Design at A level went on a day trip to London to gather source material to support their practical work.

The group spent the morning at Tate Britain where, along with the permanent collection, they saw the Rachel Whiteread exhibition. The afternoon was spent at the National Portrait Gallery and the National Gallery, before ending the day at Tate Modern.

Lower Sixth artists visited Manchester to gather primary source material at the start of their A level course.

The group spent time drawing the industrial architecture in the area around the Castlefield Basin and they also visited Spinningfields and the Northern Quarter where they took photographs and gathered ephemera.



## PUPILS CZECH OUT BUSINESS ON TRIP TO PRAGUE

Sixth Form Economics and Business Studies pupils visited Prague for an interesting and insightful five day trip to see how businesses on the continent operate.

The travelling party visited Rückl Crystal Glassworks, a family-run business that was set up in 1846. They saw how the glass is made and some of them tried their hand at glass blowing.

On a tour of the Škoda Factory, pupils were impressed to learn about the 850 different stages of the production line and that a new car comes off the line every 59 seconds!

Pupils took a tour of the Kozel Brewery and visited the Museum of Communism – which presents an account of the post-World War Two Communist regime in Czechoslovakia.

Speaking about their experience in Prague, Max Jackson and James Fleming said: **"It really helped to deepen our understanding of the subject and will help us with our Economics exam in the summer."**

**"We enjoyed learning about the specialisation of labour at the Škoda Factory and the fringe benefits the workers receive."**

Miss Leanne Curl, Head of Business Studies and Economics, added:

**"This was a fantastic opportunity for the pupils to visit a variety of businesses and contextualise a range of topics covered during Business and Economics lessons. The business visits were fascinating and I am sure that the pupils will have some long lasting memories to take from the trip!"**

## LIFE STUDIES PUPILS EXPLORE BRITISHNESS AND THE ROLE OF REFUGEES

Life Studies pupils visited St Luke's Centre in Ardwick to attend a food workshop run by Heart & Parcel.

The trip supported the work the boys and girls have been doing around Britishness and the impact of living in a multicultural society and it enabled the pupils to gain a better understanding of the positive impact of promoting integration and multiculturalism.

Throughout the day, pupils watched local volunteers whip up a range of tasty treats before they sampled them and had a go at making their own.

They were also told more about The Boaz Trust - a sustainable programme that helps destitute refugees and asylum seekers to lead safe, healthy and fulfilling lives.



## SCALING THE HEIGHTS IN SUNNY SPAIN

A hardy group of climbers travelled to the Costa Blanca for an action packed trip that saw them put all their skills into practice.

Tackling ascents on Alcalali, Bellús, Olta, Echo Valley, Paret de la Basra and Sierra de Toix, the group were pushed out of their comfort zone but the boys and girls thoroughly enjoyed the challenge.

As well as climbing, the trip allowed pupils to enjoy the beautiful beaches and share the cooking duties in their accommodation.



## NETBALLERS ARE SUCCESSFUL IN SWITZERLAND

Fifteen pupils from the Fifth Year and Sixth Form spent four days in the Swiss city of Geneva on a successful netball tour.



Following an intense training session with Swiss Netball at the International School of Geneva on their first day, the girls were ready to play some competitive matches.

They played four games against Swiss Netball's Under 17 squad. The hard work and preparation put in at school before the trip, and the great coaching on the tour itself, served them well as they secured victories in three of the games.

Off the court, the girls had a great time visiting Lake Geneva and seeing the famous Jet d'Eau. A trip around the old town gave the girls an insight into the city's wonderful past and a tour of the United Nations office, their European headquarters, demonstrated the city's place as a global hub for diplomacy.



## BATTLEFIELDS TOUR GIVES INSIGHT INTO FIRST WORLD WAR

History pupils from the Third Year upwards visited the Battlefields of the First World War in northern France and Belgium.

The boys and girls visited the location of 1916's infamous Battle of the Somme as well as exploring the underground museum in Albert.

Pupils laid a wreath in memory of Old Stopfordians lost in battle at the Memorial For the Missing at Thiepval and a minute's silence was held in memory of all those who died in and around the Somme area.

They also made their way around meticulously replicated underground bunkers and trenches at Passchendaele Museum where they were also able to view the extensive collection of objects and photographs that were on display before visiting Hooge, a small village near Ypres that was totally destroyed during the First World War.

A second wreath was laid by Lucy Ferris and Alex Patsias at the moving Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres.

Thomas Pennington said: **"The trip to France and Belgium was very interesting and educational and I would really recommend it to other pupils as it helps in class as it gives you more thoughts about what happened in the war."**

**"There were lots of facts and figures on show and walking through the trenches and reading them gave you a feel for what life was like for the soldiers."**

**"A relative of mine, my grandad's uncle, is buried there and it was a special moment visiting his grave. I did research about him before the trip and my family had lots of questions when I returned."**



## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

GCSE Food Technology pupils attended The Cake & Bake Show at Event City in Manchester.

Pupils took part in a baking academy with Juliet Sear and a masterclass on cake decorating techniques by *Great British Bake Off* 2015 finalist, Paul Jagger. They then had a chance to practise their skills at various workshops.



## FRENCH FOOD BOOSTS LANGUAGE SKILLS

Second Years visited Bistrot Pierre in Sheffield to improve their French by ordering food and drink in the language.

# SPORT

## FOOTBALL

The U12 Girls football team won their first game of the season 7-2. Darcy Breen got five of the goals with Chloe Smith scoring the other two. Emily Mills, Anna Howard, Anna Wilkinson and Priya Anand were very strong in midfield and defence and played some fantastic balls through to set up the goals. Special mention goes to Molly Atkinson-Lamb for a superb performance in goal.



## VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS

We enjoyed playing host to St Gregory's College from Argentina for a couple of days as we faced them in hockey and rugby matches. Both games were keenly and closely contested and were an excellent workout for all of the players involved.

## RUGBY

Upper Sixth players Will Kay and Will Spendlove have been selected in The Lambs (Independent Schools RFC) National Under 18 squad for the 2018 season.

The team, which exists to create openings for boys to showcase their rugby skills at a representative level, will compete in nine fixtures, including games against three Premiership academies, as well as a tour of Croatia and Italy.

Congratulations also go to Zak Sebouai, who was picked to represent Lancashire, and Seb Walker, who was chosen to represent Cheshire.

Several players have been selected for the Sale Sharks Developing Player Pathway. These are Under 14 - Harry Reeder-Hirst, Oluwalayomi Phillips, Harry Brown, Tom Crouch, Ewan Curran, Jack Brown and Oliver Setchfield; Under 15 - William Woodside, Bradley Boyd, Chester Bowden, Panashe Munaiwa and Josh Taylor and Under 16 - Emilio Ramirez, Zak Sebouai and Oscar Elvin.



## NETBALL

Well done to the U13s who are through to the semi-final of the Independent Schools Cup beating Bury Grammar School, Woodhouse Grove, Manchester High, Altrincham and Haileybury along the way. A 39-12 win over Emanuel School in the quarter final secured their place in the semis.

Congratulations also go to Beth Taylor, who has been selected for Leeds Rhinos' U17 Performance squad and Channell Brown, Freya Noble and Libby Wolstenholme, who have been picked for Manchester Thunder Netball's Youth Academy.

Channell and Libby have been chosen to be part of the Cheshire County U15 and U14 squads respectively and Darcy Breen, Libby Goodman, Chloe Olajide and Libby Porter have been called up to the Greater Manchester U13 squad.

## HOCKEY

The 1st XI placed third in the North West Finals of the National Schools U18 tournament and narrowly missed reaching the North Finals for the fifth consecutive year having been runners up in the Greater Manchester round.

The U13s beat Rossall School 12-0 in the Independent Schools Cup. Talia Zelhof, Libby Porter and Amy Jack were the goal scorers.

Upper Sixth pupil Lily Wolstenholme was selected to take part in the Great Britain Hockey Elite Development Programme which is aimed at boosting medal chances for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and beyond. The programme was run by world class coaches and started with an induction camp at Lilleshall in October.



## DAVID IMPRESSES ON THE WATER

Following on from his success in the summer World and European Championship competitions, where he was placed a creditable 19th in the World for his age category of Under 18 K1 Men, David Paterson has accelerated his training programme over the winter period. This is to enable him to reach a peak for the spring selection races for the GB Team where he is competing for selection to both the Junior and Senior GB Teams. Last season he greatly improved his ranking with the result that he is currently ranked number 20 in Great Britain in all age categories.



### BRIGHT FUTURE BECKONS FOR MUSICAL TRIO

Congratulations to Pippa Brown, Sam Howard and Natalie Bennett who have been selected for The Hallé Youth organisations.

Pippa and Natalie have joined the Hallé Youth Choir and Head Boy Sam, who plays the double bass, is now a member of the Hallé Youth Orchestra.

The groups rehearse every Sunday and will stage a varied concert programme over the next year.



### DREAMS OF ANNE FRANK CREATE A POWERFUL DRAMA

Upper School pupils delivered two compelling performances of this autumn's drama production, *Dreams of Anne Frank*, a dramatic interpretation of her diary by Bernard Kops.

The play, which blends the youngster's imagination with the harsh reality around her, celebrates the 13 year old's vitality whilst at the same time reminding us of the Nazi dogma that led to her death and the deaths of millions like her.

Despite the emotional and serious subject matter, the play is interspersed with pockets of humour, delivered by a wonderful cast.

Sonu Thomas shone as the titular character with Ben Sullivan, Grace Shropshire and Ella Dearden turning in great performances as her father, mother and sister respectively.

Emma Scolah, Sam Wilkinson and William Woodside impressed as the Van Daans, the family that share the attic with the Franks.

Maryam Ghaznavi voiced the Diary with aplomb, Alex Grant portrayed Mr Dussel to a tee and Daniel Grant effortlessly changed characters as he played Winston Churchill, 'Man' and Adolf Hitler.

Head of Drama Mrs Alison Moffatt said: **"It has been a great privilege to work with the pupils to produce this play. They have been uncompromisingly respectful and compassionate and the whole team have crafted a production that brings us all closer to the real Anne Frank."**



### MUSICAL EXCELLENCE AT AUTUMN CONCERT

The first of this year's seasonal concerts, the Autumn Concert, showcased a high standard of performance to provide an evening of exceptional entertainment.

The concert was opened by the String Orchestra playing *Andante Festivo* by Sibelius and Bartók's *Romanian Folk Dances*.

Next up were VOX, the choir for First and Second Year girls, who sang *Heroes* and *How Far I'll Go* from *Moana*, with a strong and committed performance which reflected the theme of the music.

Brass Ensemble brought additional sophistication to the evening with regal performances of the *Minuet* and *Trio* from Handel's *Music for the Royal Fireworks* and the trumpets shone in Verdi's *Triumphal March* from *Aida*.

As is customary in this concert, an Upper Sixth pupil is invited to perform a concerto with the First Orchestra and this year it was the turn of flautist Jessica Lloyd.

Jessica performed the first movement of Poulenc's *Sonata for Flute* and gave a sparkling performance that was well received by the packed audience.

First Orchestra then closed the first half with an energetic rendition of the first movement of Schubert's *Symphony No. 5*.

The second half got underway once the Junior Band, boasting over 50 performers, made their way on stage. Mr Kennedy conducted the band in performances of *Four of a Kind*, *Doctor Rock* and perennial classic, *Soul Bossa Nova*.

The Senior Percussion group of Jacob Noakes, Dan Grant, Daniel Vincent and Oscar Williams then gave what was arguably the performance of the evening. Playing Harran's *Gear Train*, the boys performed a display of fantastic co-ordination, physicality and rhythmic flair. Chorus brought the evening to a close with soulful performances of *West Side Story* and *Ain't No Mountain High Enough*.

### REGGAE RULES AT MUSIC RECITAL

Third Year pupils performed a series of reggae hits to a packed Hallam Hall at one of the regular Monday afternoon recital concerts.

Mr Kennedy's class opened the show with *Three Little Birds*.

Oscar Williams and Gabriel Keeble delighted with their voice and ukulele ensemble and there were solos from Nick Othen, Lucy Grundy, Lola Gurton, Daniel Vincent, Libby Wolstenholme and Emily Edwards, before Mrs Matthews' classes performed *Jammin'* and *One Love*.



# JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

## PREFECTS AND CAPTAINS APPOINTED TO POST

At the first assembly of the academic year, Headmaster Mr Tim Wheeler awarded badges to the Year 6 pupils selected as senior prefects and house and team captains.

In keeping with recent tradition, all Year 6 pupils have been made a prefect with a number selected to be senior prefects. The senior prefects will assist Head Boy William Daniels and Head Girl Molly Parnell.



## BRAVO BEN

Year 6 pupil Ben Lavender was proud to pick up two medals at the Greater Manchester Autumn Swimming Meet.

The keen climber, footballer and tennis player grabbed silvers in the 50m and 100m breaststrokes and also achieved the qualifying times for the 100m backstroke and the 100m freestyle.

At Marple Swimming Club's annual gala, Ben struck gold in the 50m breaststroke, 50m backstroke and 100m individual medley. He won silver in the 25m butterfly and the 50m freestyle.

He also entered the Open Age 100m breaststroke event and he picked up a bronze medal – beaten only by a 15 year old and a 22 year old.



## TECH SAVVY PUPILS ENJOY ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR

Year 5 pupils demonstrated their teamwork and programming skills at a K'NEX workshop which was delivered by STEMworks scientist Simon Kettle.

Tasked with designing and building a fairground model controlled by a computer program, pupils constructed their own carousels and Ferris wheels using K'NEX equipment, allowing them to experiment with structures, gears and other mechanisms whilst modelling their design.

After being shown how to use the software, pupils wrote their own programs which made the models move, play music and have lights flashing.

Pupil James Petch had a great time at the workshop: **"It was a really fun day as we got to work as a team and experiment with equipment we haven't used that much before. There were lots of different things to do and the programming was a bit of a challenge."**



## TIME TRAVELLING YEAR 4 PUPILS ENJOY A STAY IN YORK

Boys and girls in Year 4 experienced life as Romans and Vikings on their residential trip to York.

The pupils donned full Roman armour on their visit to Murton Park where they practised being guards, making oil lamps and writing in Latin. Their soldier training set them up well when a Celt came to try and raid their fort with the children perfectly performing the testudo to send him packing. The night culminated with a Viking telling pupils sagas from that period of history.

The Viking theme continued into the next day as pupils learnt about Viking life on a visit to the Jorvik Centre and the Castle Museum.

At the museum, the Victorian street had a real sweet shop, dungeons and an old toy shop. Whilst on the street, the pupils were taken on a tour around the slums and into the chemist where they stored the leeches for medicinal purposes. The trip ended with a workshop on crime and punishment in Victorian times.

Pupil Alayna Ahmed enjoyed the busy and informative trip: **"It was interesting and exciting and I enjoyed staying with my friends. We found out that houses in the Victorian times only had one room which the whole family had to share!"**

## BUDDING ARTISTS DEMONSTRATE THEIR LOVE FOR LOWRY

Year 2 pupils visited The Lowry in Salford where they went on a tour which allowed them to study the artist's work in greater detail. In special workshops they learnt how to draw faces showing different expressions before trying their hand at copying some of Lowry's work, including *The Portrait of Ann* and *The Man with Red Eyes*.

Back in school they continued to work on Lowry inspired artworks, culminating in an Art Afternoon during which the pupils focused on Lowry's landscape works and, with the help of their family members, they designed and decorated a page using a host of different materials.

Once complete, pupils joined their pieces of art together with other creations to produce a number of collages which are now on display.



## YOUNGEST PUPILS RELISH THEIR REVAMPED LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Exciting changes have taken place in the Pre-Reception – formerly Nursery – classroom and the children have settled in with confidence.

Over the summer break, staff were supported by the Early Excellence Centre in Huddersfield to help revamp the furniture, room layout and resources.

Pre-Reception has new areas for play which enable and encourage children to be independent and self-sufficient. Through their play, they develop motivation and resilience along with learning to take turns and make choices.

Mrs Catherine Hampson, EYFS Coordinator, said: **"We have chosen to rename our Nursery as Pre-Reception to clearly reflect what we, as a school, offer for the early education of our youngest pupils. The class is very much a pre-cursor to Reception and, in conjunction with the children's play, our well-qualified staff provide small group activities to develop skills in numeracy and literacy."**

## JAM SANDWICHES THE REWARD FOR WILDLIFE WALK

Pre-Reception pupils went on a walk to the bakery where they bought freshly-made bread to make sandwiches with.

With the assistance of some helpers, the boys and girls adhered to the Green Cross Code as they walked to Pilkington's Bakery via Davenport Park where they spotted and identified some wildlife.

After speaking to the bakers and paying for their buns they sat down in the classroom and made some yummy sandwiches with butter and jam.



## FOOTBALLERS ON A WINNING STREAK

Ten footballers from Year 3 went to Manchester City's Academy Centre for their first school tournament recently.

There were over 16 independent schools from the North West taking part and the boys performed well by winning three, drawing one and losing one of their five games.

The U11 football team were runners-up in a 7-a-side competition at King's School, Macclesfield.

They were awarded the silver medal courtesy of the 'most goals scored in the competition' rule.

## SHAKESPEARE PLAY IGNITES PUPILS' LOVE FOR LITERATURE

Year 6 pupils got fully immersed in the mesmerising story of Macbeth during a visit by the Young Shakespeare Company.

Girls and boys were chosen to become individual characters in the story and all of the children got the opportunity to speak and enjoy the Bard's words.

The interactive play, which was led by engaging and energetic actors from the company, encouraged the pupils to explore the motives, thoughts and feelings of the characters.



## ACTION PACKED RESIDENTIAL DELIGHTS YEAR 5 PUPILS

Adventurous Year 5 pupils spent three action-packed days at the Hollowford Centre in the Peak District on their residential trip.

The boys and girls got the chance to take part in raft building, hill walking, abseiling, caving, zip wire, weaselling, high ropes courses and team challenge sessions.

For a number of pupils it was the first time they had been on a multi-day adventure trip away from home and it introduced them to the Outdoor Education and Duke of Edinburgh opportunities that the school provides.

Pupil Luca Golden gained a lot from the trip: **"At the start on the high ropes I felt a bit nervous because people were wobbling when they took the first step on the bridge. I felt really good at the end as people gave me encouragement and lots of confidence."**

Holly Batey enjoyed being challenged: **"I was the first on the high ropes, when I went on the pegs it was hard and the vines were harder again. When I came down I pretended to be a bird!"**



## FRENCH FANCY

As part of their Modern Foreign Languages lessons, Year 6 pupils brought in French food as a reward for presenting their speeches. Delicacies included croissants and pain au chocolat.



## SPARKLING SMILES

Pupils in Years 2 and 4 listened to a talk about looking after teeth by Anne Jepson from the Community Dental Service.

Anne talked about how we have two different sets of teeth during our lives – deciduous (baby) and permanent (adult) – and how sugary foods and drink affect our oral health.

She introduced terms such as bacteria, plaque, acid and decay and finished by talking about the best way to brush your teeth.



## BUDDING ACTORS SEE THEIR EFFORTS REWARDED

Pupils who took part in the LAMDA (London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art) club were presented with certificates during assembly. Following completion of an exam, a large number of boys and girls collected their certificates from their LAMDA teachers, Mrs Bates and Mrs Marston, having achieved a Level 1 Award in Performance.



## WELL DONE GIRLS

Year 6 netballers finished runners-up in the plate competition at St Pius X Preparatory School's tournament. The girls played exceptionally well.



## STEP BACK IN TIME

Year 4 pupils have been learning about the Stone Age as part of their Humanities lessons. To bring the subject to life, they focussed on Stonehenge and had a go at making their own monuments using modelling clay.

## TIME FOR TASTY TREATS

Year 3 pupils cooked up a delicious treat in their English lessons as they finished off their work on instructions by following a recipe on how to make Rocky Road.

Paying close attention to the imperative verbs, the boys and girls chopped, mixed, stirred and finally ate their creation. After enjoying their treat, it was then time to write their own instructions, remembering the steps they took and all of the equipment they needed.



## PUPILS HAVE A HOOT AT WILDLIFE PARK

Year 1 pupils had a fabulous day in the sunshine at The Chestnut Centre, an otter, owl and wildlife park. The boys and girls have been learning about owls from the book *Owl Babies* and were treated to a barn owl display of flying and feeding.

During the visit they saw lots of different types of owls as well as spotting otters, a fox and a pine martin. They also learnt about conservation.



## WHO'S BEEN LEARNING IN MY CLASSROOM?

A 'bear' visited the Reception classrooms and left dirty footprints all over the floor.

The children made posters and playdough bears to scare it off and even looked at the footprints with magnifying glasses.

A few days later the boys and girls received a letter from the bear and went on a hunt around the school to find it.



## PLAY IN A DAY

Pupils from St Mary's RC Primary School in Stockport visited girls and boys in Year 3 to take part in a 'Play in a Day'.

The children were split up into three groups where they were each given a scene from Roald Dahl's *The Twits* – which they have been reading in class – to learn.

With the help of some props and artwork, the boys and girls then put on an energetic performance for Year 1 and 2 pupils.

## EARNING THEIR ARTISTIC STRIPES

Year 1 pupils welcomed their mums, dads, aunts, uncles and grandparents into school for an animal-themed Art afternoon.

Pupils and their guests were tasked with making a face mask from paper plates, patterned paper, cardboard strips and tissue for a wall display in their classroom.

The afternoon was inspired by the work the children have been doing on *The Tiger Who Came To Tea*.



## TYRE-IFFIC TIME

Pre-Reception pupils visited the Grounds team to have a close look at the tractor. The boys and girls were really interested in the big tyres and the tread on them, which led to them talking about pattern and having a look at patterns on their own shoes.



## BRINGING SCIENCE TO LIFE

Year 6 investigated Natural Selection by discussing Darwin's finches. They looked at beaks from different birds to decide whether or not the shape affects the type of food it can eat.

After making their predictions, the children were presented with different seeds and fruits along with different tools to act as beaks. They then set to work against the clock to gather as much food as they could.

## INSPIRATIONAL ART

Year 6 pupils took inspiration from the work of visual artist Michael Brennand-Wood during their Art Day.

Pupils were tasked with designing and creating their own 3D piece using items such as wire and wool. The boys and girls needed to decide on and develop their own theme and consider the texture, colours and dimensions which would bring their artwork to life.

