



## FUNDRAISING AND ADVENTURE IN VIETNAM

After a year of fundraising and preparation, this summer saw 21 Sixth Formers, together with four members of staff, head off for a four week visit to Vietnam. Pupils wasted no time in getting under way with the project phase of their trip and spent the first week helping on a school building project in a local village and teaching the children English.

Boys and girls then took in some breath-taking views while trekking in Sapa, where, after a long day's trek, pupils enjoyed the hospitality of local families for the evening. Following on from this, pupils either visited the Demilitarized Zone, the area around the former border between North and South Vietnam, or Cuc Phuong National Park, the wildlife capital of Vietnam.

For the final part of their trip pupils travelled to Mai Son to visit the Cham dynasty temples before heading to Halong Bay, a World Heritage site, where they relaxed and enjoyed a two-day luxury boat tour.



# PUPILS PURCHASE BED FOR STEPPING HILL HOSPITAL

Pupils in the Junior School recently presented a cheque for £745 to the Stroke Unit at Stepping Hill Hospital. The money was used to buy a special bed to help elderly patients in the Unit. During their visit to the hospital pupils got the chance to see the bed they had purchased and to chat to patients on the ward.

Boys and girls raised the money when they held Charity Week earlier in the year, taking part in activities such as a prince and princesses' ball and a game of 'Who Wants to be a Mathonaire?'



# NETBALL TRIP SUCCESS

The U13, U14 and U15 netball squads started the Autumn Term with a weekend of netball and outdoor adventure at Windmill Hill in Sussex.

With 19 teams involved in the netball tournament, SGS performed exceptionally well, with four out of six teams reaching the final for their age group. The U15 team came runners up in a close final to Lynn Grove High School, while the U13 and U14 teams remained undefeated, going on to win the competition.

The weekend was action packed and when the netball was finished pupils enjoyed archery, zip wire activities and aero ball.



# YOUNG ENTERPRISE PUPILS SWEEP THE BOARD

Lower Sixth pupils scooped three prizes at the 2009 Stockport Area Finals of the Young Enterprise competition. Both teams, Fluorescent Adolescent and Urbanize (pictured left), managed to secure awards. Urbanize won Best Business Report, while Fluorescent Adolescent won Most Innovative Product. Urbanize Managing Director, Martin Kent also won Student of the Year.

# CELEBRATING ANOTHER YEAR OF OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT!

## FANTASTIC A LEVEL RESULTS

Boys and girls are once again celebrating after another year of fantastic A Level results. Thirty eight students gained straight A grades and 82% of all grades awarded were A and B grades.

## UNIVERSITY SUCCESS

Almost all of our leavers gained places at their preferred universities. Destinations include Edinburgh, Bristol, Loughborough, Durham, Hull, Manchester and King's College London for courses that include Civil Engineering, Politics, Law, Architecture, Dentistry and History.

All seven students holding conditional offers for courses at Oxford and Cambridge Universities fulfilled their ambitions and gained the grades they needed to take up their places.

## CONSISTENTLY HIGH GCSE RESULTS

Boys and girls maintained the school's consistently high academic standards with 90% of all GCSE entries being awarded A\* - B grades. Seven pupils were awarded all A\* grades, while a further 25 gained a clean sweep of A\* and A grades.

For more information visit [www.stockportgrammar.co.uk](http://www.stockportgrammar.co.uk)



## CRICKETERS BOWLED OVER BY VIKRAM SOLANKI

## DANCE FEVER

For the second year running pupils interested in dance have benefited from the expertise of Dance teacher, Michelle Fotherby-O'Brien, from Dance Fever Studios in Wilmslow. Following on from their performance earlier in the year at the Royal



Northern College of Music as part of Dance Fever's annual show, twelve pupils are now also celebrating success in their dance exams. Sarah Gaskin, Jaina Mistry, Paige Bagley, Kia Bracegirdle, Rhian Armstrong, Jessye Persse and Jess McNeill were awarded their first introductory award. Jessica Omitola, Christina Bates, Max Teeling, Abi Meikle-Roche and Josh Abbas were awarded their Latin American Bronze Medal.



Fortunately rain didn't stop play when England cricket international Vikram Solanki visited SGS for the second Andrew Flintoff Cricket Academy. Boys and girls were hit for six by some of his top tips and after facing some full-pelt bowling from pupils, Vikram presented the prize for the winner of the 'Crazy Catch' competition and signed shirts, bats and balls.



## INSPIRATION FROM LIBBY PURVES

Renowned journalist, author and radio presenter Libby Purves OBE recently visited to take part in the annual Speech Day Ceremonies for the Junior and Senior Schools. Libby gave inspirational and witty speeches and presented children with prizes for their academic, musical and sporting achievements.

She spoke to pupils about the importance of perseverance and said: *"You are bound to have setbacks in life, but have courage. Even if you don't get to where you want to go straight away, keep at it. Most importantly, keep a sense of humour and be brave."*

## SHOWCASING ARTISTIC TALENT

The annual GCSE and A Level Art Exhibition was once again attended by a large number of parents, pupils and friends. The quality of work on display always attracts a positive response and this year was no exception. Pupils showed work created with a high level of skill and understanding and a range of media, including paint, print, textiles, photography and 3D was skillfully handled. The varied, and often highly personal, works were warmly appreciated by guests present on the evening.



## PUPILS HIT THE RIGHT NOTE



The annual Music Festival marked the end of a very busy period in the music calendar. This year's festival was adjudicated by Peter Stallworthy, who had an extremely difficult job judging ten categories showcasing all instruments from recorder to voice. This year's Lower School winners included Freya Bruce (clarinet) and Jed Holloway (saxophone) whilst further up the school, Naomi Clarke (violin) and Jake Barlow (vocal) collected their trophies.

## NUFFIELD SCIENCE BURSARY

This summer three SGS pupils were awarded highly prestigious Nuffield Science Bursaries. The scheme gives pupils the opportunity to spend six weeks joining in a real research project alongside practising scientists. Abbigail Howson, Roger Lightwood and Daniel Livingstone all spent time at Manchester University. Abbigail and Daniel worked in the cardiovascular laboratories with Professor Tony Heagerty, while Roger was based in the Material Science Department. All three were able to contribute to ongoing research and Daniel will become a co-author when the work is published as a full paper.





## PUPILS HAVE A SMASHING TIME

Boys and girls in the Junior School dressed up in togas to break plates and compete in ancient Olympic Games as part of their recent Greek Day.

The day, which took place as part of Year 3's project on Ancient Greece, gave pupils the opportunity to take part in Classical History lessons, make Greek masks and perform Greek myths. During lunch boys and girls sampled some traditional Greek food, before heading to the playing fields for the afternoon's Olympic finale.

## CHESHIRE COUNTY CUP

Having won the Cheshire Cup as U12s the pressure was on SGS to retain the cup as U13s. Opponents Bridgewater School won the toss, leaving SGS to bat.

Once again the innings was given solidity by Matthew Hughes, who contributed an invaluable 49 as SGS posted a modest total of 109-4 in



the allotted twenty overs. The all round strength of the U13 side has been their hallmark and a combined attack of Woodside (1-25), Schofield (1-17), Morton (1-17), McRoberts, and Hughes (2-10), ensured that Bridgewater fell 14 runs short of their target.

## NEW ANIMATION CLUB

As well as the introduction of GCSE ICT, the ICT Department are also offering pupils the opportunity to learn a range of exciting and creative animation skills at their new Animation Club. Boys and girls will be able to create their own animation using plasticine and other props, which will then be recorded using different digital media, before being uploaded for editing on a computer.



## SCHOOL COUNCIL CHARITY PROJECT



The good work of the School Council continues with a collaboration project with other Stockport schools. Last term members of SGS's School Council met up with pupils from Stockport School's Council to discuss

working on an initiative to support the charity EducAid in Sierra Leone. Any parents interested in helping with this project should contact Mr Ehegartner at [ehgartnera@stockportgrammar.co.uk](mailto:ehgartnera@stockportgrammar.co.uk)

## FURTHER AFIELD: FROM IDAHO TO THE ATLAS MOUNTAINS



Every year pupils in the Sixth Form are eligible to apply for a travel bursary via the Albert Johnston Travel Award. This year the trustees of the award were so impressed with two of the proposals put forward that they decided to offer two awards. The first award went to Lucy Worthington who spent a week in Idaho working at the Silver Spur Ranch, where she carried out everyday ranch duties and helped on horse drives. The second award went to Adam Rheinberg and Matthew Thomas who spent eight days in Morocco climbing the Atlas Mountains.



## FRENCH WORK EXPERIENCE

Upper Sixth pupils Guy Sephton and Kay Currey both spent time in France during the summer holidays, working and practising their French. Kay (pictured with colleagues) spent time in Limoges, working in beauty shop Yves Rocher. Guy spent his time working at a campsite in Rodez, Aveyron where he worked behind the bar and helped with activities such as football, rugby, water polo and volleyball.



## COAST TO COAST

Head of PE, Mr Wright, together with Old Stopfordian Rob Pailin (OS 1987) and three other riders, recently successfully completed a Coast to Coast cycle ride from

Scarborough to Blackpool. The two day trip, which covered 152 miles, raised a whopping £8,000 for The Christie Hospital. Well done all.

## DRAMA UPDATE

Following on from last year's successful production of *Les Misérables*, drama at SGS continues to go from strength to strength. New Drama clubs are up and running and a new scheme called 'Drama Ambassadors' has been introduced. The scheme aims to give Upper and Lower Sixth pupils more autonomy over drama productions, giving them the responsibility for directing,

choreographing, stage managing and marketing productions.

### We'll Meet Again

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November, Lower School pupils will be performing *We'll Meet Again*, a promenade style theatre production based on the stories of WW2 evacuees. For ticket information keep an eye on the website [www.stockportgrammar.co.uk](http://www.stockportgrammar.co.uk)



## PUPILS PERFORM IN BELGIUM

As the Summer Term drew to a close, forty pupils, plus seven members of staff, headed off to Belgium for a Music Concert Tour. During the tour pupils performed at three spectacular venues; Ghent, Brussels and Bruges Cathedrals.

The 90 minute concert programme contained a mixture of vocal and string music including Vivaldi's *Magnificat* and Bach's *Double Violin Concerto in D minor*. Students and staff alike had a fantastic five days and are already looking forward to the next tour venture.

## FANTASY FOOTBALLERS CELEBRATE THEIR BEST EVER FINISH

Last term pupils in the Junior School celebrated their best ever finish in the Schools' Fantasy Football League. As well as coming sixth nationally, SGJS were also the highest scoring Junior School in the country and the top school overall in Greater Manchester.



## READY, STEADY, ACT



Lower Sixth pupils again wowed fellow pupils and staff alike with their annual Sixth Form Play. This year pupils chose to perform Alan Bennett's *Getting On*, a play about a disenchanted socialist MP who has to contend with his passing years.

Starring Harvey Owen as the lead and directed by Charlotte Round, the production was as always selected, cast, rehearsed and staged in little over a week. Well done to all involved.

## ATHLETICS TRIUMPH

SGS boys James Barratt, James Flynn, Andrew Ward and David Ward are celebrating after helping Sale Harriers win the Northern Championships. Andrew and David (pictured right) also went on to represent Sale as North of England Champions in the National Youth Athletics Championships. David competed in the high jump and shot, while Andrew competed in the hammer, javelin and shot.



## BACK TO NATURE

Second Year pupils had the perfect introduction to outdoor pursuits on their five day trip to Grasmere in the Lake District. During the trip pupils learnt how to take care of themselves in a mountain environment, as well as taking part in kayaking, climbing, ghyll scrambling and fell walking.

# DUKE OF EDINBURGH DOUBLE SUCCESS



Last term Head Girl Lucy Worthington and fellow pupil Helena Charles (both pictured left) were lucky enough to be invited to St. James's Palace where The Earl of Wessex, Prince Edward, personally presented them with their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

Further success followed at this year's Duke of Edinburgh Presentation when over 100 pupils were awarded their Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. The awards were presented by Andy Farmer from the Peak District National Park Authority. Special awards were given to

Robin Wilson for the Skills section, Alicia Warner for the Physical section, Emma Woodhead for the Volunteering section and to Lucy Worthington for outstanding achievement. The Expedition Team Award went to Team Hodge Podge who earlier in the year had persevered under very difficult conditions in the Yorkshire Dales.

# SEVEN-A-SIDE CHAMPIONSHIP WIN



The Junior School U11 football team showed great determination to win their 7-a-side tournament at King's Macclesfield. After starting with a goalless draw against Bolton School and a 1-0 loss to The King's School Chester, the team turned it around with a 1-0 win against Bury Grammar, that saw the team finish in second place in the group stage. During the semi-finals a Tom Wilson hat-trick helped the boys to an emphatic 4-0 victory against King's Macclesfield, before going on to defeat Bolton School in the final, with Edward Francis scoring the golden goal during extra time.

# ENGLAND HOCKEY SUCCESS FOR OLD STOPFORDIAN

Congratulations to Kirsty Dawson (OS 2007 and former Head Girl) who has become a member of the England U21 hockey team selected to play in this summer's Junior World Cup at Harvard University. Kirsty and the rest of the squad competed against some of the best players in the world at U21 level. Despite missing out on a medal, when Argentina grabbed a goal in the last minute of extra time in the semi-final, the squad still managed to secure themselves an impressive fourth place finish, the best an U21 England side has ever achieved at a Junior World Cup.

For more Old Stopfordian news keep an eye on the Old Stopfordian section of our website [www.stockportgrammar.co.uk](http://www.stockportgrammar.co.uk)



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