

Stockport Grammar Junior School NEWSLETTER

6th July 2018



Welcome to the final edition of our Newsletter this school year. It has been another fantastic year and we have very much enjoyed all the events in the last weeks of the term. The children have been busier than ever, as you can tell from this very full newsletter. Congratulations to our boys football team, who secured the Stockport Metro Cup just yesterday with a hard fought 3-2 victory over Lady Barn. In other sports news, Arden won both the rounders and the tennis trophies this year, so ending a run of Nicholson victories after their wins in both the swimming gala and at sports day. The House trophy for the year, which is awarded to the House winning the most house points, also went to Nicholson.

Our Open Morning next term will be on Saturday 22nd September. If you know anyone who would be interested in looking around our school, please invite them to come. We will, once again, be looking for guides from children in Y3-6 so please put the date in your diary.

It has, as I have said, been a great year. My thanks to the children for everything that they have done and to you, our marvellous parents, for all your support. I wish everyone a lovely summer break and we look forward to seeing the children in September.

A Hop, Skip and a Jump to Victory

Our Athletics Team were in for an exciting day of track and field which, for once, could be enjoyed in clear skies and sunshine at the AJIS Athletics Championships. The boys started on the track with the girls getting the day going on field events. The boys made a promising start with Faris Latif winning his 80m heat, Sachin Gholkar coming 3rd in his 150m and Ronan Breen winning his 600m heat (despite a pulled muscle) and Ben Lavender finishing 2nd in his 600m, knocking 7 seconds off his previous best. Ben won silver and Ronan bronze when heat times were accounted for.

At the same time, the girls were competing in field events. Many of them achieved new personal best results: Elise Muthappen and Annie Cooke in the ball throw and Aryanah Latif in the long jump.

The afternoon meant a switch in events with the girls moving onto the track and the boys competing in the field. Jameson Chatha and Harry Cook scored new personal bests in the high jump and Nick Turner achieved a creditable 3.99m in the long jump, missing out on a medal by 1cm.

On the track, Amelia Blakeley dominated the 80m, winning both her heat and final by a good distance. Our Y6 girls' relay team fought hard to maintain their lead in the 4 x 100m heat but were edged out of the finals by 0.1 of a second. The boys won their heat despite a dodgy second baton changeover and then redeemed themselves in the final, finishing in a fantastic 2nd place. It was a fabulous day made all the better when the event hosts congratulated our children on their sporting behaviour during the medal ceremony. A proud day for all of our athletes.



Pen Pals



Our children from Y4 and Y5 who attend German club wrote letters to penfriends from the *Jules Verne Campus* bilingual school in Munich last week. Our boys and girls were very excited to receive their first letters back last Monday and learned about their new friends' pets, families and hobbies. They are very eager to write back!

Holiday Care

Our holiday care will again take place this summer in the Woodmoor Building in the Senior School. Access to Woodmoor is via the swimming pool entrance; Miss Jones and her team will be there from 8.30am to meet you.



Year 5 Reap What They've Sown

"In the Science lessons we are currently learning about plants. We have planted some seeds, e.g. carrots, sweetcorn and parsnip. In our final Science lesson, we harvested them and tried them – they were delicious!" Alexander Hambleton



Before we tasted the vegetables, we washed them in water as they were full of soil. Most people liked the peas as they were really sweet. Some people were lucky like me, they got to eat the peas in their pods! My favourite was the parsnip and my least favourite was the lettuce. This was a really fun Science lesson." Klara Joubert.

An Enterprising Day for Y6

Our Y6 pupils exercised their creative and commercial skills as they took part in Enterprise Day last week. Our boys and girls were tasked with coming up with a brand new design for a kit in the sport of their choice. They were presented with a range of tasks to complete which included designing a logo and slogan and they also had to identify the cost, selling price and profit of their sport kit.



Football Finalists

Congratulations to our UIIA Football team who progressed to the final of the Stockport Metro Cup, having beating St. Mary's, Reddish 3-0 away. The match was played immediately after the Junior Sports Day in punishing conditions. A small enclosed pitch was bathed in sunshine high temperatures.

The final followed yesterday against Lady Barn at Mersey Vale Primary School. The boys had already lost this season to a strong Lady Barn side but, after a tense and even first half, the team put in a great performance to secure a 3-2 victory. A very excited group of boys returned to school just in time for Prize Giving.

All the Fun of the Fair

All our children had a fabulous time at our House Charity Summer Fair this week.



From cake and ice-cream selling to 'Splat the House Captain', Hook-A-Duck and What's in the Box?, there was something for everyone, with over £1060 being raised, which is a fantastic effort. The chosen House Charities were:

Arden:	Diabetes UK
Nicholson:	Jump Space
Vernon:	Ruben's Retreat
Warren:	Donkey Sanctuary



Well done to all our Y6 children on their inventive stalls and hard work in making it a fun afternoon for everyone.



Charity Basketball

Our Charity Basketball fund raiser for Diabetes UK produced the following results: Winners MJ Juniors, Runners up Scorpions, Joint 3rd place Little Big and Lemon Justice & Hoopers. Congratulations to everyone who competed and a special thank you to the Y6 boys who organised the event.

A Breath of Fresh Air

As part of Clean Air Day, our Y3 children have been learning about air pollution and the effect it has on our bodies. Our children learnt that you cannot always smell air pollution and it is known as *invisible dirt*. Everyone learnt about the damage poor air quality can have on our lungs and how it can affect our ability to breathe. To demonstrate this, Y3 tried breathing through a straw to simulate reduced lung capacity.

'I found it difficult to breath.' Dylan Daw

'I felt out of breath in a short space of tim.' Emily Rogan

'Breathing out was very difficult.' Noah Brandenburg-Roberts



Science Crest Awards



After 30 hours of lab work, intensive research, production of a project board and YouTube publication of results, Freya Niven and William Daniels achieved a Bronze Certificate for their work on a Science Crest award recently. Usually undertaken by Year 9 pupils, they needed to excel in 11 out of 15 key skills. Despite being our youngest applicants, they were judged to be exceptional in all 15 areas examined, gaining high praise from the assessor.

NSPCC Silly Sock Day

Our boys and girls rose enjoyed their 'Silly Sock and Shoe' day to raise awareness of and funds for the NSPCC. The theme was *'Stamp out Bullying'* and by donating £1.00 to wear silly shoes and/or socks, our children raised a 'shoe-stopping' £292!



Katherine Fights for a Medal



Congratulations to Y4 pupil Katherine Monk, who competed in the Cheshire and Manchester Judo Championships last weekend. Katherine won a very well deserved bronze medal after competing against girls in Y8, four years older than her and all taller!

A Happy Birthday to...

Charlie Dean, Matthew Muamba, James Woodsmith, Reese Appleton, Sadie May Feehan, Ben Lavender, Ella Hitchen, Alex Canty, Matilda Hynes, Zimar Jatoui, Sid Sajjan, William Copeland, Bradley Gleave, Tejiri Urhobo, Bella Clark, Mia Brown, Magdalena Calado-Seifert, Finn Haisley, Florence Hughes, Marleigh Coster, Harry Coles, Aarya Arthanayake, Sam Duckworth, Mina Farooq, Charlotte Underwood, Marley Stones, Benedict Woodworth, Harry Stevenson, Mehul Valluri, Charlotte Sullivan, Edwards Daniels, Thomas Collins, Yahya Ibrahim, Minnie Harrison, Inaaya Mahmood, Euan Courtney, Rosie Lee, Oliver Daw, Ayush Gupta, Oliver Jim, Georgia Stevenson, Fergus Dymock, Susie Yang, Mahdiya Rehman, Mysha Hussain, Muhammad Ahmed, Sam St Clair, Lara Sykes, Kareem Ammar, Eli Goodman, Lola Whereat, Zoe Ogunmakin, Sanuk Gamage, Leo Campbell, Ryan Mehra, Adam Turo, Harry Groom, Sienna Entwistle, Pearl Hughes, Riley Newhouse, Ismail Sarwar, Anabelle Whereat, Yasmine Zaki, Neave Stafford, Nel Rushton, Frank Zhang, Viola Phillips, Harry Li, Thomas Alexander, Hari Sen, Lilly Noone, Mathew Ediker, Ava Perfect, Thomas Carter, Alfie Anderson, William Bowes, Alfie Smith, Georgia Atkinson, Tilly Wolstenholme and Elsa Mullins.

Author Visit

Last week our KSI children were lucky enough to spend time with the author and illustrator Matt Buckingham. He took individual sessions with each class, explaining how he creates the characters for his stories and produces his fantastic illustrations. He showed our children original illustrations used in his 'Bright Stanley' stories. Our boys and girls then helped Matt to create new characters, by turning scribbles on a page into imaginative images. Here is a link to Matt's website to give you an idea of his work.

<http://www.mattbuckingham.co.uk/>



Y5 Class Pieces

Our Y5 class ensemble pieces were rather "yellow" this year! Definitely echoing the bright summer weather, the upbeat feel of the approaching end of term, and our sunny mood, each piece had a "yellow" title; *Yellow Submarine*, *Yellow Bird* and *Tie a Yellow Ribbon round the Old Oak Tree*. Though familiar tunes, the pieces were complex and demanding for our Y5 musicians but they were up for the challenge and wowed the audience with their performances. Alongside the class pieces, nine soloists entertained us on a variety of instruments.



One parent said "What a joy it was to have the opportunity to see the class pieces on Friday. The children were superb, each clearly passionate in trying their best to connect with the music, and at the right time. Their commitment shone through."

Shakespeare Play is a Dream

On a beautiful sunny evening, our parents enjoyed cooling refreshments before watching a group of Y5 children perform Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' in the courtyard. Our children acted superbly with confidence, and our musicians played beautifully. Our Y5 Drama group then performed a traditional Elizabethan dance for their audience.

Lights, Camera, Action

Our Y6 leaver's party was held last Saturday at Stockport Rugby Union Club. Our boys and girls donned their finest outfits for a glamorous Hollywood Oscars themed occasion, even walking down the red carpet upon arrival!



Judging by the photographs, it looks like everyone had a marvellous time.



Our thanks to Mrs Parnell and Mrs Daniels, along with many helpers on the day, for arranging a wonderful day full of memories for our children.



Tudor Trip for Y5

On 12th June, Y5 went on a trip to Bramall Hall, an old Tudor house that has interesting artefacts plus an unbelievable history! In the Hall, Y5 got to play Tudor instruments, make Tudor style fences, practise Tudor writing (using a quill) and even look at some of the only Tudor paintings left in Britain. My favourite part was being able to look inside the priest hole and learning about what it was used for. I enjoyed Bramall Hall very much because I got to do fun activities and learn about the family who once lived there. The trip to Bramall Hall was definitely one of my favourites and I would definitely give it a five star rating!
Matthew Rogan Y5V



Music Success

Congratulations to the following pupils on their recent Music exams:

Dylan Zhao, Prep Piano Test, Pass.
Thomas Alexander, Grade 1 Trumpet, Merit.
Thiana Quinn, Grade 1 Double Bass, Merit.
Mia Bentley, Grade 1 Violin, Pass.
Erin Rouse, Grade 1 Singing, Merit.
Pippa Othen, Grade 2 Cornet, Merit.
Lilly Cooke, Grade 2 Double Bass, Merit.
Erin Roberts, Grade 2 Flute, Distinction.
Zahra Raja-Zahid, Grade 2 Violin, Pass.
Sara Watson, Grade 3 Flute, Pass.

Musical Excellence

On Friday 29th June, some of our Y5+6 advanced musicians took part in a concert in Hallam Hall. Our pupils each played a solo, capably demonstrating their growing musicianship and skills. The variety of instruments, including piano, drums, violin, cello, flute, clarinet, cornet and voice ensured the audience enjoyed a relaxing afternoon of performances, marvelling at the competency of such young musicians. Our best wishes go with our Y6 as we look forward to seeing them play in the many concerts and events in the Senior School.



Sports Day



On the most glorious day for years, our children looked forward to a day of running, jumping and throwing activities. Due to the unusually high temperatures, the events were altered to allow 600m and relays to be run early the next morning. Our Y5+6 children started the day and there were a good number of excellent scores and technical performances, but most of all children enjoyed the opportunity to compete for their respective Houses and support their friends. Scores were close for the top 3 teams but the number of runners who volunteered for the 600m certainly affected the overall totals. Well done to all of the children who made the effort for their House. The relays were won by Arden girls and Warren boys.

	Arden	Nicholson	Vernon	Warren
Y5+6	476	518	412	437
Y3+4	320	324	400	389
Total	796 4 th	842 1 st	812 3 rd	826 2 nd

On another beautiful afternoon, our Pre-Reception, Reception and Y1+2 children came out to show their families the skills they had learned through the summer. Our visitors were amazed at the distances Y2 children could throw the Nerf Howler.



We were well entertained by the adept way the children cleared the hurdles and there were many tumbles and restarts in the sack race, all testing our children's resilience. Our Pre-Reception children 'shopped' at speed and dodged numerous obstacles. All our children behaved beautifully, tried their best and were very sporting. It was a lovely event which concluded with the results: Vernon 1st, Arden 2nd, Warren 3rd and Nicholson 4th but everyone having had fun with family and friends.



Author Brings Universal Appeal to KS2

Our Junior School pupils were treated to a visit from Matt Brown, a well-known radio producer, DJ and TV presenter last Friday. Matt visited us on Friday to talk about his brand new book 'Aliens Invaded My Talent Show', following on from his *Compton Valance* series which proved widely popular.

'Aliens Invaded My Talent Show' is a fantastic book that revolves around space, magic and comedy. Highly interested and full of laughter, our pupils were really eager to hear Matt talk about his story and describe his journey to becoming an author. With a passion for space and science too, Matt discussed the universe, its sheer scale and the exploration program Voyager, encouraging pupils to imagine exactly how big the universe is (and in turn how small we are in comparison), what it is to be a human and how we would portray that to an alien.



Highly inspired by our energetic visitor, enthusiastic children lined up around the hall to get their copies of his book and grab a signature from their new favourite author.

Football Fever in Pre-Reception

Our Pre-Reception children had yet another exciting day recently. They were lucky enough to have two football coaches from *Coach Right UK*, come in to school to do some football skills with them.

Our boys and girls worked on developing skills such as controlling the ball, kicking, shooting and goal scoring. They even got to take part in a football match at the end. Our children had an absolute 'ball' and were full of excitement.



Charles Hall proudly said 'When I kicked it someone blocked it and when the man rolled it I scored and it was 3-0.' Whilst Olachi Eseonu expertly relayed 'You had to keep your foot on the ball and move it up and down.'

Greek Day

Our Y3 Greek Day was a huge success recently. All our children enjoyed making traditional Greek soft drinks, learnt all about Archimedes' 'Eureka' moment, designed Greek pots and made clay tablets and that was all before lunch!



Our boys and girls dined al fresco in the cool shade, sampling traditional Greek food such as koftas, feta, pitta and olives with Greek music playing in the background. In the afternoon everyone decorated plates and enjoyed some Greek dancing before ending with their very own version of the Olympic Games.



Performing Arts Festival

Over 100 of our talented musicians, singers and dancers gathered again for a festival of entertainment on Monday 25th June. The Orchestra started us off with Dvorak's "Going Home"....should that have been the final item perhaps?! The Junior Choir gave us renditions of their two songs which gained them second place in the Alderley Edge festival in May; a rather amusing story about Mozart and a stirring performance of *How Far I'll Go*. We were impressed with a joint performance of a song with the Drum group, Choir and Ukuleles as they concentrated hard to keep in time together and produce a balanced sound. Some animated performances of *Under the Sea*, and *Belle*, from our younger singers left us toe-tapping, whilst the Dance group, despite their music track of *Feel it Still*, were moving freely and with rhythm. Much to the appreciation of fellow festival performers, our Y6 rock band, *The Lakes*, were keen to show off their prowess with a couple of songs too.

Well done to all our performers for a thoroughly enjoyable summer afternoon's entertainment.

Y3: A Dramatic End to Term

Y3 have been working hard in their Drama lessons in preparation for last Monday's performance. Working without props, costume, staging or lights, the challenge was to bring to life the words the page, whether that was convincing everyone that they were a fire or trying to become Sirens, mythical creatures who lured sailors to their death on the rocks. 3K began proceedings with a very lively and confident 'The Dragon Who Ate Our School', followed by 3H with 'The Boneyard Rap'. In the Spring term, each class had worked on a short scene from 'Macbeth' and they then worked to create their own rhyming couplets in the style of Shakespeare. These couplets were then blended with some of Shakespeare's own and 3SM were tasked with bringing to life the witches scene. Each class then performed a longer piece, featuring two short scenes from the tales of Odysseus on this long journey home from Troy and finally a piece about the Great Fire of London. It was clear that all of the children enjoyed their performances, as did the large and appreciative audience, and all the hard work paid off.

Y4: Nonsense and Numbskull

The Year 4 pupils delighted a large audience with their performances of *Nonsense and Numbskull* sketches in our Courtyard earlier this week. Our children have been working independently in small groups over the last term. All our boys and girls had to work co-operatively, providing their own props and costumes. The end product was a true success. Well done to Y4!

Prize Giving

The children had already met this year's guest speaker, Matt Goodfellow, and so they knew what to expect. Matt performed a number of his poems, getting the whole audience to join in, finishing with 'Chicken on the Roof', which requires lots of flapping of arms. Matt then presented the prizes and awards to Y6 and the whole evening gave us all an opportunity to say thank you and farewell to the children.

