

# Stockport Grammar Junior School

## NEWSLETTER

20<sup>th</sup> January 2017

**Welcome** to the first Newsletter of 2017. It has been lovely to see some blue sky at last today and to see the children outside enjoying the crisp, bright sunshine. We tried to tackle the subject of 'democracy' in assembly this morning, particularly considering the difficulties of democracy when people don't agree on everything. This was sparked, as you might imagine, by the inauguration of president Trump. We actually started out talking about football, with the red and blue badges generating some strong emotions, neatly illustrating the notion that we all have to get along with people with whom we don't agree (apologies to both City and United fans but I don't support either!).

Y6 enjoyed their trip to Liverpool this week where they learnt all about slavery and human rights, a theme which was followed up in their PSHE lessons. A full report will follow in due course. Y3 spent much of Wednesday trying to find out about the escaped tiger, news of which Mr Tully announced to the children's amazement. Mrs Nichols launched our 500 words story competition this week and, after an impressive 80 plus entries last year, we hope that even more will take part this time. Although the BBC competition has broad age groups, within school there are prizes for each year group. Further details can be found on the BBC website (see below).

There is, as ever, much to look forward to in the next two weeks. There is a particular focus on Maths on Monday, with some extra Maths lessons built into the day and various fun mathematical activities. Y3 are making the trip to Tesco for 'Farm to Fork', which is designed to help the children understand the importance of a healthy, balanced diet. Our Y5 and 6 singers will be making their annual trip to Manchester Arena to become part of one of the largest school choir concerts in the world and Y6 also have an Art Day ahead of them.

### The Weeks Ahead

Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Maths Day Netball v WGS (A)	UII A+B	9.00am-3.00pm 4.00-6.00pm
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	Gala v CHS (H)	Mixed Y3-6	4.00-5.30pm
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Football v Birkenhead (A) Netball v Birkenhead (A)	UI0 A+B UI0 A+B	1.00-5.00pm 1.00-5.00pm
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Football v Westholme (H)	UII A+B	2.30-3.45pm
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	Hockey v QSC (H) Stockport Harriers Cross Country, Woodbank Park	UII A+B & UI0 A+B	9.15-11.30am 10.30am-12noon
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Tesco 'Farm to Fork' trip Gala v Westholme (H)	Year 3 Mixed Y3-6	AM 4.00-5.30pm
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Art Day	Year 6	
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Tesco 'Farm to Fork' trip Arena Singers Concert Netball v CHS (H)	Year 3 UII A+B & UI0 A+B	AM 12.30-9.30pm 4.00-5.00pm
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Hockey v Westholme (H)	UII A+B	2.15-3.30pm
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Manchester Harriers Cross Country, Wythenshawe Park		10.00-11.00am



### Indoor and Outdoor Nursery Fun

Our Nursery children have enjoyed baking gingerbread men and have had lots of fun listening to the story of *The Gingerbread Man*, and there are further activities around the story planned for the rest of the term. The children also made a Gingerbread Café and enjoyed role-playing and serving their 'customers'.

Outdoor fun was had too, as the children learnt about gravity by using paint on the wheels of their favourite cars and sending them whizzing down a ramp, making lots of colourful tracks on the paper.



### Charli has a 'run-in' with Success



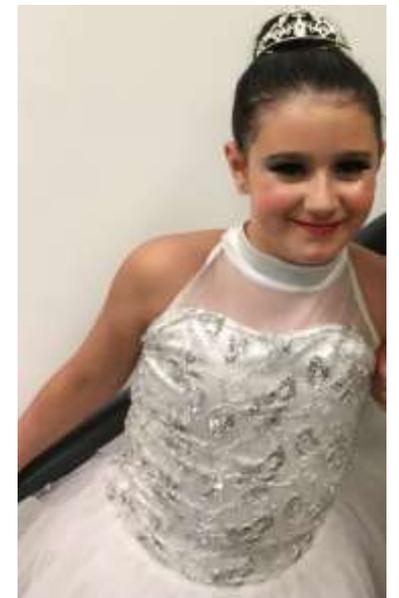
Charli May Barnett has been competing in the Stockport Schools Cross Country series at Woodbank Park this season. As a result of her 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishes, she has been selected to represent Greater Manchester schools in early spring. Many congratulations to Charli on her performances and selection.

### News from the Pool

There was a very tight finish to the swimming Gala v MGS at home for our boys on Monday, with the final result SGJS 129 - MGS 131. Many thanks to all our swimmers for taking part and showing great sportsmanship and, as always, to the parents who supported the event. There are two more home galas to look forward to in the coming weeks; Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January v CHS and Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January v Westholme.

### Making a Song and Dance of it

Several of our pupils have been able to showcase their talents over recent weeks as they performed in two show-stopping shows: Mason Peters and Grace Warburton danced their way to the Emerald City in *The Wizard of Oz* at The Evans Theatre in Wilmslow earlier this month. The production was arranged by Dance at the Smithy Dance School in Bramhall. Grace told us "I like dancing and I really enjoy taking part in the shows. The whole experience is fun and I enjoy the many costume changes, the hair-styles and the make-up! It was really nice to see some of my friends in the audience but I had to remember not to wave as we are not allowed to during the performances!"



Tilly Wolstenholme has had a fantastic time in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* at The Lowry Theatre, Salford alongside Jason Manford during its current North West run. Tilly told us that she didn't want it to end! Tilly has a singing teacher who put her forward for the audition and the part she played was a Sewer Child, one of the children who had been caught by the nasty child catcher!!



### A Happy Birthday to...

Adam Ullah, Anabel Brazier-Cabrejas, Arthur Wolstenholme, William Dyson, Christian Woodworth, Matthew Rogan, Nikhil Vadhri, Joshua Roberts, Bethany Burton, Sami Sen, Anna Porter, Sara Watson, Darcy Breen and Raees Latif.

## Science Challenge



There was a fun dimension to Science lessons for our Y3 pupils this week. The children have been learning about healthy eating and they were asked to test drinks for levels of acidity. They used universal indicator paper to check water, coke, orange juice and milk. They learnt that water is neutral and orange juice is very acidic. In their next lesson they will be learning about the impact of too much acid on their health. *'It was the best Science lesson.'* George Yuan



# BBC 500 Word Stories 2017

Create an original story and go to [bbc.co.uk/500words](http://bbc.co.uk/500words) to enter online. Also, give a paper copy to Mrs Nichols to enter into the SGJS competition for your year group.

## Hockey Trials

'Six girls in Year 6 got the offer of going to the Greater Manchester hockey trials. In each training session there were three stations. The first was for doing all of the advanced passes, the second was for doing skills and on-the-go passes and the third was for matches. When the training sessions were finished many girls were told; "Thank you for coming to the training sessions." Others were asked to come back for the next round of trials. Four of us from SGJS were asked to come back; we were delighted! On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January, we returned for the final trials. It was very tense but, knowing that we were a year younger than most other girls, it would be incredible and exciting if we got through. This has been a great experience for me and the other girls!'

Anna Wilkinson Y6T

Chloe Smith and Alex Hartemink were selected for final trials on 15<sup>th</sup> January and Rosie Lear will attend later in the month. Amaya North and Anna Wilkinson were successful in being selected for the final U12 squad and the other girls will be called back for re-trials next season. Well done to all of the girls who attended the training and selection.



## Yummy Stories in Y1

Y1 are learning all about traditional tales this term. This week they have looked at *The Three Little Pigs*. The children really enjoyed making their own pig biscuits in Art with pink icing and marshmallows and chocolate drops to create the face.



## Team and Class Photographs

Please make a note in your diary for Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April (the first day of the Summer Term) as the date for class and team photographs. Please ensure children in Year 5 and 6 have their team kits with them on the day.

### Musical Youth

Our congratulations to the following children on passing their Grade exams:

Alexandra Bloor	Grade 1	Flute
William Buckley	Grade 1	Piano
Molly Coghlan	Pre-grade	Piano
Sachin Gholkar	Grade 2	Clarinet
Jessica Jones	Grade 1	Clarinet
Lara Mathen	Grade 1	Piano
Jeeya Patel	Grade 1	Clarinet
Adina Vidler	Grade 3	Trumpet
Lilah Vidler	Grade 2	Clarinet
Sara Watson	Grade 2	Flute

### Sliding Fun in Nursery

Our Nursery children had fun in the garden and they enjoyed interacting with the 'play people' and playing with water. They loved sending the people down the bamboo shoots, sparking conversations about holidays and water parks and their own experiences.



### Y1 have Designs on the Senior School

Our Y1 children enjoyed a visit to the Design and Technology department in the Senior School earlier this week, supporting their Science topic on Materials. They were shown examples of different materials, including types of wood, metal and plastic, and they learnt about their properties. They were shown how metals can be cut and shaped and even had a go themselves.



### The Tiger Who Came to Year 3



Y3 children came back from assembly on Wednesday to find their classrooms had been torn apart by an escaped tiger!

Mr Tully said: "I saw something dash out of the door but didn't know what it was." Mrs Hurst confirmed: "I was in the staffroom and heard a loud scream from Mr Tully." The children busied themselves looking for clues and interviewed Mr Makinson, Mrs Cheyne and Ms Mariet in their quest to uncover the truth. Mr Makinson told them: 'It could be my pet tiger, because it ran away 2 years ago!'

Some of the children shared their initial thoughts with us: "I was extremely shocked when I entered the classroom." Ava Perfect "There was mess everywhere, I didn't know what had happened!" Oscar Miller "I was terrified when I saw our classroom had been torn apart!" gasped Katherine Monk

Some of the children came up with some fantastic newspaper headlines to go with their reporting: *Who Let the Tiger Out? Who Who Who Who?* Joshua Muamba *Rapid Rampage Tiger on the Loose!* Sam Duckworth

No one really knows what happened that day but we do know that the children used their imaginations to gggrrrrreat effect!



### Half Term Holiday Care



Booking forms are now available for Holiday Care during the February half-term break. We provide a safe, stimulating and varied environment for your child with a varied range of activities. Holiday Care will be available between the hours of 8.30am and 5.45pm, 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> February. Pick up your booking form from the School Office for further details and to reserve your place.

### Stepping Back in Time with Y2

Our Y2 children enjoyed a visit from Mrs. Swales' mother last week. She came in to talk to the children about the toys she played with when she was a little girl during World War 2, to link with our History topic on toys. The children learned what the toys were made from and also found out lots of interesting facts about what life was like for a child during the war.



### Cracking the Code

After the successful 'Hour of Code' event last year, our Junior School pupils once again participated in this global event during their ICT lessons. It was great to see how advanced some of the pupils have become in the space of a year and how others selected tasks that were really quite challenging, putting their coding skills to the test!



The children thoroughly enjoyed their time spent on the 'Hour of Code' and truly deserved their certificates of completion. The website and coding tasks can be accessed from home at <https://hourofcode.com/uk>.

