



Stockport Grammar Junior School NEWSLETTER

10th March 2017

Welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter, once again reflecting a busy and enjoyable two weeks. I think I can let the news speak for itself this time but I wanted to draw your attention to our plans for Red Nose Day (see below) and to emphasise that we are asking children to be creative with things they already own rather than asking their parents to go out

and buy them a costume. We aim to have some fun and raise some money for charity at the same time. This week we had an opportunity to pass on the monies raised before half term in support of Leo. In the end, the total passed the £5000 mark, which is a fantastic achievement and the enormous cheque was gratefully received. The assembly was also an opportunity to remind the children how fortunate they are and to encourage them, once again, to make the most of the many opportunities on offer here. Clearly, as this very full newsletter demonstrates, they are certainly doing that. We have a chance to share some of what the children have been doing at next term's Open Morning, on May 6th. We hope that many of you will be able to join us and also encourage you to invite along anyone you know who may be interested in seeing our School.



The Weeks Ahead

Monday 13th March	Knowsley Safari Park Trip Stockport County Healthy Awareness Swimming Gala (Girls) v MHSG (H)	Y3 Y5&6	9.00am-3.00pm 9.15-10.00am 4.00-5.00pm
Tuesday 14 th March	Parents' Consultations	Nursery-Y2	4.00-7.00pm
Wednesday 15 th March	Stockport County Healthy Awareness Rugby v The Grange (A) Netball v The Grange (A) Young Shakespeare Company	Y3&4 U11 A+B U11 A+B Y6	9.15-10.00am 1.15-4.45pm 1.15-4.45pm 1.20-3.30pm
Thursday 16 th March	Rugby v KSM (A) Parents' Consultations	U10 Nursery-Y2	2.15-4.30pm 4.00-6.00pm
Friday 17 th March	Founders Day		
Saturday 18 th March	Football AJIS Festival @ CHS Stockport Harriers Cross Country, Woodbank	U9	10.00-11.00am 10.30am-12noon
Monday 20 th March	Davenport Village Trip Netball v KSM (H) Rugby AJIS Festival @ MTS	Y1S Y4 U11	1.15-2.15pm 2.15-3.30pm TBC
Tuesday 21 st March	Fun Swim Cross Country Festival @ Lady Barn	Y1 Y5&6	1.00-3.00pm TBC
Wednesday 22 nd March	Poetry Competition Greek Day Netball AJIS Competition @ BGS Davenport Village Trip Football v The Ryleys (H) Football @ St Ambrose	Y3 Y1B U11 U9	8.45-9.45am 9.30am-3.00pm TBC 1.15-2.15pm 3.00-4.15pm TBC
Thursday 23 rd March	Hockey v Withington Girls (H) Football v Bolton (A)	U10 A+B U10 A+B	2.15-3.45pm 2.45-5.45pm
Friday 24 th March	Football Tour Departs Rugby Festival @ St Ambrose	Y6 U10	1.00pm 12noon-3.45pm
Saturday 25 th March	Stockport Harriers Cross Country, Woodbank Football Tour Returns	Y6	10.30-12noon 6.00pm

Netball News

Last month our U11 A&B teams took on the mighty Oldham. The A team had an unbeaten record which they were extremely keen to maintain. However, they knew that it would be a very tough match and that they would have to play to the best of their abilities if they were to win.

Fortunately, they were on form and maintained a lead from the start, eventually winning by 17-12. The B team also played superbly well and beat Oldham 16-1. All our girls were delighted with their performance.



Y2 Go to Church

All of our Y2 children enjoyed a walk through Davenport to St George's Church last week. They were met by the Vicar who talked to them about the building and the important things inside the Church. The children were able to touch various objects to see what they felt like and some children were allowed to stand in the pulpit! The children were very well behaved and learnt lots of interesting things.

Y6 Have a Capital Time in London

Our Y6 children had an early start to their London trip at the end of half term, setting off in the dark at 7.00am after arriving at school for 6.30am. The first stop was The Globe Theatre where the children had a guided tour and a walk around the exhibition before eating lunch on the Southbank.

A lovely walk followed, from Buckingham Palace, through St James Park, past Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey. Later that night the children enjoyed the West End show, *Matilda*, which everyone agreed was fantastic.



The second day really was 'magic' with a visit to the Harry Potter Studios where the children were treated like VIPs, skipping the long queues, having a special room opened up for lunch and being given lots of mementoes from the day. Finally, although not via platform 9 ¾, the children arrived back at school, tired but full of exciting stories to share.

"London was amazing! We saw Big Ben and Buckingham Palace. They were incredible! *Matilda* the musical was outstanding and if you haven't seen it already, I would recommend you go. I especially liked the Harry Potter World – it was spellbinding!" Darcy Breen



"When we got to London we visited the Globe Theatre and a tour guide showed us around and told us the history and then we watched the rehearsal of a play. After that we saw Buckingham Palace and a while later we had dinner at Pizza Express (it was delicious!). Then we saw the musical '*Matilda*'. The show was so amazing! We stayed overnight at the Premier Inn and had breakfast there too. In the morning we went to the Harry Potter Studios, it was the best thing there! I loved the London trip so much, I think it's the best school trip yet!" Callum Horsley



Water Polo Club

We are delighted to be able to offer our children the chance to join Water Polo club in the summer term. The club will be open to Y5 and Y6 on a Monday after school and Y3 and Y4 on a Wednesday after school. As with swimming lessons, the children will be met in the courtyard by our swimming teachers and returned to the Junior School for collection at 4.45pm.

All levels and abilities of swimming are welcome. There will be a sign-up sheet on the swimming board (in between 5SM and 6T) on Monday 13th March and we will send parents a confirmation email if their child has a place. Due to health and safety in the pool, we can only accept the first 30 children that sign up. However a reserve list will be made of any other children who wish to attend.

Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day this year is on Friday March 24th. We are giving the children the opportunity to dress up and, if they choose, to be creative! There are 10 different 'red nose' characters this year and the children may come as any one of them: Nose-it-all, the all-knowing owl, the Viking Norse Nose, DJ Boogie, Dr. Nose, The Snorcerer, Snootankhamun, Sniffer the dog, Sneezecake the chef, Snuffles the dragon and, Frankinose! If all that sounds too difficult, children may dress in red clothes instead. In exchange for a minimum donation of £1, we hope to have lots of fun dressing up!

Easter Holiday Care

Booking forms are now available for our Easter Holiday Care Club. The club will run between Monday 10th & Thursday 13th April and again between Tuesday 18th & Thursday 20th April.

Y6 Maths Challenge

This year's event, as always, was a House competition involving all our Y6 pupils in teams of four. Our children faced three gruelling rounds including a group round, individual relay and pairs relay. After a hard-fought competition, the results were:

In 1st place with 82 points:

Harsha Thalava, Anusha Prasad, Noah Ng Man Kwong and Katerina Yoncheva.

In 2nd place with 76 points:

William McCluggage, Rosie Lear, Darcy Breen and Toby Harper-Jones.

A tight contest produced a joint 3rd place, on 69 points:

Hussain Armughan, Remi Fadahunsi, Callum Horsley, Hamza Noman, Juan Ramirez, Annalisa Griffiths and Ramsey Challah.

Overall, the results meant a win for Vernon on 61.4 points with a very close second for Arden on 61 points.

Warren and Nicholson were closely matched with Warren just clinching 3rd place with scores of 52.75 and 52.25 respectively.



Dance Workshop

Boys in both the Junior and Senior School were put through their paces as they took part in dance workshops thanks to STRIDE, a Greater Manchester dance project for young men aged between 10-20 years old. Y6 boys jumped, glided and rolled their way over the Junior School hall under the direction of a professional male dancer.



He encouraged pupils to move around the space with speed and precision and promoted strength, trust and agility as they performed exercises supporting a dance partner's weight.

It was not just their bodies that got a workout, the boys had to use their creativity as they worked together to make different vehicles with just the shape and adaptability of their bodies.

Stockport Grammar School

presents

Annie

Our Senior school pupils are putting the finishing touches to their show stopping performances of *Annie* at the end of this month. Performances are in the Main Hall and take place at 7.30pm, Wednesday 22nd to Friday 24th March and 6.00pm Saturday 25th March. Tickets are priced at Adults £10 and Pupils £5. A booking form is attached to this Newsletter for your convenience.

AJIS Hockey Tournament

The tournament provided a tough day of matches for the U11 team, who have had an excellent season so far. They met Birkenhead in the first game and scored within two minutes which paved the way for a 3-0 win. The second game was the SGJS girl's best performance with a 6-0 victory over Newcastle-under-Lyme. Things became tougher in the final group game as the girls met King's Macclesfield. For every fantastic attack by SGJS, King's had a solid defence. The stalemate could not be broken and the game ended 0-0. This left SGJS winning the group on goal difference.

In the quarter finals SGJS met Cheadle Hulme and, from this point, the teams were very evenly matched. The game was hard fought and both sides only managed to score once which created a penalty rush, knock out situation. After the 3 rushes the scores were even and meant 'sudden death'. Anna Howard was amazing in goal, moving forward to intimidate the attacker and force an error. Captain, Amaya North, then stepped up for her second 'rush' and ran straight at the goalie, put her off balance and took her strike to score. This put SGJS into the semi-final.



Queen's Chester were the opponents and once again the deadlock could not be broken and the game ended 0-0 and resulted in another set of 'penalty rushes', which our girls could not convert against an outstanding goalkeeper. Disappointment for the Stockport girls but great satisfaction in knowing that they mirrored the results they have achieved through the season. A fantastic well done for great team spirit, good skills and hard work.

Nursery Have a Flippin' Great Pancake Day

Our children enjoyed learning about and celebrating Shrove Tuesday last week. The children were involved with observing and naming the ingredients and then had great fun helping to make the pancake mix. The children measured, poured, whisked and stirred with excitement before watching as the mixture was cooked and tossed in the air. Everyone thought it was really funny that it might get stuck on the ceiling! They discussed the importance of safety when cooking and the children were able to share their ideas. Then the most important part... the tasting! At the pancake station, there were choices of lemon and sugar, golden syrup, toffee or chocolate sauce. As you can imagine, the chocolate sauce was very popular and went down a treat!



Brain Blaster Masters

The Brain Blaster workshop was a great experience for Y5 and 6 children this week. The groups engaged in challenges which encouraged them to work as teams to solve problems, think independently and persevere.



Tasks such as filling the fraction tubes and solving the restaurant conundrum certainly made them think!

"Some puzzles were tricky but we got there eventually. My favourite was the 'Tube Fractions' where we had to put together a series of colour coded pieces to make a whole to fill each tub." Mia Krywonos

A Happy Birthday to...

Luca Hurst, Thomas Waite, Maya Gholkar, Orlagh Bentley, William Gillespie, Joshua Hodgson, Oliver Feehan, Yusuf Khan, Amelie Joubert, Klara Joubert, Hamza Noman and Emily Lawson.

Y3 and 4 Class Pieces

It was lovely to see many of our parents and grandparents this week as they came to listen to our Y3 and 4 children showcase their musical abilities in their class pieces.



The standard was particularly high this year and there were some great performances. Above all, however, it was clear that everyone was very much enjoying playing music together.



Y6 Are All Heart

Y6 have been learning about the heart and the circulatory system and were given the opportunity to consolidate their learning by seeing a demonstration of a pig's heart dissection. They were then able to examine and explore the structure of the heart first hand, tracing the pathway taken by the blood through the hearts chambers, veins and arteries. There was plenty of opportunity to ask questions and develop their understanding, utilising the expertise of our visiting biologist, Mr Knowles.

"It was really interesting seeing a real heart. We could see the arteries and ventricles." Hussain. Harsha added: "We discovered that one half is thicker than the other and that the heart still pumps when it's outside the body. We could see the white fat inside the heart too." "We learnt lots of new things, it was squidgy and, even with gloves on, it still felt cold". Darcy "You could actually see the heart strings!" Sara



World Book Day

This year, all our children once again took part in various activities linked to the same book, this time 'A Tale of Two Beasts' by Fiona Robert.

From Nursery to Y6 the children discovered this funny and charming story, which showed them that there are two sides to every story, and the children spent the day learning how to see different points of view through debate and role-play.

In the Infants, our children thought of alternative stories from two points of view. They talked about how to care for animals, created wanted posters to find a lost beast and enjoyed many art and craft tasks linked to the text, including making a variety of puppets, beasts and animals for role-play and story-telling tasks. In the Juniors, the children got creative, making cartoon strips of the story, sewing their own beasts and making homes for them out of junk. Instructions were written on how to care for a beast, and a mock trial was staged, accusing the main character in the book of abduction. Y6 created their own story books, and will be visiting our Reception pupils to read and share these soon. Both the children and the staff had a wonderful day!

Nicholas and Darcy in 5SM gave us a first-hand account of their day:

In the morning the first thing we did was read 'A Tale of Two Beasts'. It was about a 'beast' and a little girl. There were two points of view; the girl's was that she saw a little beast crying hanging upside down from a branch, so she picked it up gently and took it home, where she gave him a cosy room to live in. The beast's point of view was that he was ambushed and taken prisoner by a hideous monster. After we'd read the book we were put into groups; defence, prosecution, additional defence, additional prosecution and judges. We were in the main defence team. Before lunch, we had approximately one hour to write a starting statement. After lunch, we set the classroom up to look like a courtroom. The judges came in and we all rose. They were dressed in ridiculous wigs that we couldn't help laughing at! Then Mrs Sullivan came in and we posed for serious photographs. Some people couldn't stop laughing. We then started the debate. The prosecution gave their statement. We rose and said 'objection!' but it was overruled. We all slapped our table hard in frustration. Then it was out turn. Darcy read our first statement and we called up our witnesses. The judges went away and discussed who had won – it was a tie!



World Book Day Brings out 'The Beast' in Y3

Deen designed a beast house, Savanna made an impressive home for her beast and Sam and Harriet are showing off their beasts.



500 Words

There was another impressive entry for this year's Radio 2 500 words competition, both in terms of quality and quantity. Many of the children received certificates in recognition of their efforts but the category winners were:

Y6 Katerina Yoncheva
Y5 Josh Roberts
Y4 Christian Woodworth
Y3 Harry Coles
Infants Maisie Holgate

Congratulations to everyone that took part.



Kingsley's Speech

Demonstrating another form of creative writing, Y4 pupil, Kingsley, got the chance to write his own book review which was then recorded and aired on Radio 5 Live.

Boldin me down

It was one of the best books I have ever read because of the witty, creative and gripping writing style. Kieran Larwood ~~deserves~~ used to write this impeccable book.

My favourite character was Podkin ^{Crunch} - because he was extremely courageous, ~~and~~ he ventured deep into the goblin camp and risked his life to save his mum.

You should read this book ~~because~~ if you like adventures with unexpected ~~events~~, twists of tales.

