



# Stockport Grammar Junior School Newsletter



7th April 2017

**Welcome** to the latest edition of our Newsletter. The sun is shining, the children are smiling and playing outside and we are able to look back on another successful term. Our very best wishes go to Miss Ripley, who is getting married over the Easter break. Miss Knowles is taking on a very different challenge, running the London marathon, and we wish her every success too. You can sponsor her (that is, Miss Knowles, not Miss Ripley) by following the link below. Many congratulations to our U11 Netball team, who were victorious in the AJIS tournament. Congratulations also to the whole of Y6 for their fantastic performance in *Aladdin*. Apart from the very high standard on show, it was also good to see how much they all enjoyed themselves and also how well they all worked together to create such an entertaining evening. Some of our Y6 boys enjoyed a successful tour, blending fun, food and football and Y3 were treated first to a Greek day and then to a special talk on heroes.

There is plenty to look forward to next term. Please note that both class and team photos are on the first day of term, April 24<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> of May, we have our summer Open Morning. This is an occasion where current parents can join with visitors to look around the school and see just some of what we do. A large number of children have volunteered to be guides and many will be involved in other ways around the school. All parents are very welcome to join us for the morning and please encourage anyone you know who may be interested in our school to come along and see us in action. We have very much enjoyed our term and it only remains for me to wish everyone a very happy Easter.

## The Weeks Ahead

Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer Term Commences Class and Team Photographs		8.35am 9.00am-2.00pm
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Cricket v Lady Barn (H)	U11A	2.30-5.30pm
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Field Athletics v KSM (A)	U11	2.15-5.00pm
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	<b>KS2 Parents' Evening</b>	KS2	4.00-7.00pm
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Cricket AJIS Cup v KSC (H) Rounders v Lady Barn (A)	U11A U11 A+B	2.00-5.00pm 2.00-4.15pm
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Biathlon SPA Uniform Sale <b>KS2 Parents' Evening</b>	Y4 + 6T & 6B KS2	11.00am-3.00pm 4.00-5.00pm 4.00-6.00pm
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Alderley Edge Music Festival Cricket v KSM (H)	U11 A+B	9.00am-3.00pm 2.00-5.00pm
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Open Morning</b> Cricket v Altrincham Prep (H)	U9 A+B	10.00am-12noon 9.30-11.00am

## Charity News

Red Nose Day saw our children raise an impressive £505.43 for Comic Relief. So far this year we have raised an incredible £6,397 for various charities, in addition to providing Harvest gifts, donations for the Salvation Army and Mission Christmas to distribute and sales to raise money for Francis House. A big thank you to everyone!

## Nursery Children Welcome 'Fluffy'



Spring arrived in Nursery this week in the form of a two week old lamb! The children called him 'fluffy' and he enjoyed lots of cuddles and strokes from everyone. A huge thank you to Mrs Finnie for bringing him in to meet everyone.



### Shreya is a Badminton Big Hitter

Shreya Lapsia has taken her place on the Cheshire County U12 Badminton A team after a successful season. She has had an opportunity to participate in many tournaments this year, both as an individual and as part of a team. Team events have included the Primary NMBL in Sheffield and the Badminton England U12 Shires League. Shreya told us that she has thoroughly enjoyed her season and Cheshire are now nervously waiting to see if they make it into the Shires League National finals in May 2017. We wish her and the team every success.



### Y5 Art Day



Our recent Y5 Art Day focused on 'Textures'. Initially, the children were shown a variety of images highlighting various objects whose surfaces had distinctive patterns and textural appearance. These were then discussed and analysed for both their effectiveness and their aesthetic appeal. The children then used Das to create a miniature collection, based on a theme, which reflected their ability to use the material and the tools to create their own 'Textures' board. Some of these were later developed by the use of inks and acrylic paint. The day involved hard work and commitment and the children were enormously proud of their results.

### Will Miss Knowles Go The Distance?

With all proceeds going to The Christie, Miss Knowles is running the London Marathon this year. After months of training, often in the dark and rain, she'll be hoping for an uplifting atmosphere which will give her an extra boost and get her over the finish line in a good time. We all wish her a very successful race. If you would like to donate online please use the link below:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-web/fundraiser/showFundraiserProfilePage.action?userUrl=davidandsara+london2017&isTeam=true>

### The Sun Shines on Y6 Football Tour

For once, Y6's annual Football Tour to the Fylde coast was blessed with beautiful weather. 19 excited boys left school on Friday to play Bolton School. The A's recorded a comfortable 5-0 win, whilst the B's suffered a similar reverse score. A quick departure from Bolton meant an early arrival at the St. Ives Hotel. This gave the boys the chance to have a run around on the beach before the traditional visit to the Seafarer Restaurant for their evening meal and a return to the hotel. Saturday morning brought a visit to the playground at Stanley Park before a challenge match between themselves on the all-weather surface. The bright blue skies meant that a McDonald's lunch could be taken on the promenade at Blackpool before strolling to Bloomfield Road to watch the Blackpool v Hartlepool Division 2 match. Goodie bags and £5 vouchers were given to each of the newly signed up Young Seasideers; a shrewd gesture by the club, as the lads then almost bought out the souvenir shop before moving into the ground to watch the home team record a 2-1 win and move into the play off places. Captain James Carr enjoyed his time at the seaside. *"The weather was fantastic and we all had a great time. My favourite part of the trip was playing takedown tig on the beach and trying to run out to the sea's edge. I also found out that Bloomfield Road serves tasty rock!"* Blake Weedon added: *"I liked being part of the fans and singing along with the chants"*.



### Watch the Birdy

Lucy Jones in Y3H has been encouraging the birds to visit our school this term. "At Brownies I made a bird feeder using a yoghurt pot, bird seed and lard. I decided to put it outside our classroom hanging from a branch. For the first few days no food had gone but four days later it was gone! We saw blackbirds and magpies and sparrows around it. I am going to make some more for the birds to enjoy!"



### A Happy Birthday to...

Hamish Singleton, Toby Burton, Ayan Mahmood, Arun Patel, Patrick Zhu, James Boyle, Reis Patel, Philippa Othen, William Francis, Blake Weedon, George Hales, Ayan Farooq and Euan Mcllwraith

### Pool News

Our last Gala of the season took place last week against Altrincham Prep School. The final score was:

SGS: 119 APS: 141

Miss Pepper and Ms Franklin would like to thank all the parents for their continued support of the team over the year and a big thank you to all the boys who swam extremely well in this final Gala (and many swam numerous races as we had a number of children absent). A great team effort.

### Holiday Care

There are no places available on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April. However, limited places are still available for other days during the holiday period. To secure your place, please call Ms Jones on 07947 140685 to confirm availability.

### Sister Act

Twins Jennifer and Rhiannon Bailey-Manion and sisters Humaira and Saara Gurjee enjoyed performing at the William Thomas Theatre last weekend in Centre Pointe Ballet School's *Alice in Wonderland*. The twins played Tweedle Dum & Tweedle Dee and Humaira and Saara played a rabbit and a butterfly.



### AJIS Netballers Net Top Prize

At the end of an undefeated season, we arrived at the AJIS tournament in Bolton as clear favourites to take the title. This is never an easy situation to be in as, with 10 minute matches, anything can happen. We were also in a group with all the top seeded teams, which made our task even harder. However, the girls did not disappoint and they easily won all six matches in the morning to take them through to the quarter finals as clear winners. Their standard of play was superb and their excellent team spirit ensured that they won the quarter and semi-finals comfortably. We then faced Oldham Hulme in the final. We knew this was going to be extremely tough and, by half time, we were drawing 4-4. At this point, we had five minutes left to play and the girls knew that if they wanted the title, they were going to have to play better than they ever had before. They certainly didn't disappoint as they went up a gear and played with both grace and determination, winning the second half 7-0, which meant that they won 11-4 and were champions! A proud moment for the girls, not only for the fantastic netball but also for the manner in which they conducted themselves. They were superb ambassadors for the Junior School and were worthy winners.



### It's All Greek to Y3!

Y3 have been learning all about the Ancient Greeks this term. It started with a special themed 'Greek Day' with all the children (and teachers!) dressing as Ancient Greeks for the day.



Our children learnt the Greek alphabet before carving their own name in Greek letters onto a clay tablet. Greek vase designs followed before a spot of traditional Greek dancing to *Zorba the Greek*, complete with (paper) plate throwing! The day ended with a reading of a Greek Myth by Mr Thorley whilst sampling some Greek food, including tzatziki, olives, grapes, pitta, humous, feta cheese and kofta kebabs.

*"I really liked it. The dancing was funny and the food was really delicious!"* Harry Coles

*"There was lots of Greek foods. I liked the kofta kebabs and pitta bread."* Connie Sibthorpe

*"My favourite part was hearing the Greek Myth."* Clara Zelhoff

*"I have loved learning about Ancient Greece. The Greek Day was the icing on the cake!"* Freddie Hancock



Last week Y3 were then treated to a talk all about *Greek Myths* by Andrew Morrison, a parent at the school and lecturer of Classics & Ancient History at the University of Manchester. The children learnt about a hero's journey in myths, from birth to childhood and onto adulthood and death. Using the story of *Theseus and the Minotaur*, they discovered what it was actually like to be a hero, including the challenges they faced and the enemies they had to defeat. *"It was interesting to find out that heroes are not always perfect!"* Erin Roberts. *"I really enjoyed finding out about the different ways heroes are born."* Thomas Stanton. The information helped the children to create their own hero and write their own Greek myth.



### Erin Is Not Lost for Words

Erin Roberts in Y3 has had her story selected to go through to the next round of the *BBC 500 Words Competition*. Erin's story is entitled 'The £10 Note'. A fantastic achievement considering the 120,000 entries that were submitted.



### Y2 Enjoy Easter Baking

Our Y2 children have enjoyed Easter baking this week. They have created chocolate Easter nests to put inside their Easter bunny baskets and they will be linking the activity to their English topic on instruction writing. They had a very egg-citing time!



### Shared Reading

"In our English lesson on Tuesday, our class (6J) went down to RT to read our books to them. The books were based on fairy tales but we had to write them from a different person's point of view. We made the books for World Book Day. It was great because the children really enjoyed the books and asked many questions about them and what the words meant. We all really enjoyed it!" Alex B, Jeeya and Darcy B.

### Y6 Aladdin Wows Audiences

After months of preparation and rehearsals, *Aladdin* finally hit the stage this week, receiving rave reviews from delighted audiences. Jack Purves and Phoebe Ferris were impressive as the title character and fiery princess Jasmine, Mason Peters hilariously depicted the Genie and Mackenzie Shropshire portrayed the evil Jafar to a tee! "We really enjoyed the production of 'Aladdin'. The rehearsals were fun, although there were times when it was a bit tiring! We think all the performers were really good. The Genie, Jafar and Iago were hilarious. A big thank you to everyone that helped out and we hope that you all enjoyed the show. We think that everyone will remember it and look back on it in the future. It was a great opportunity for the whole year to have fun together before we go off to Senior School" Katie Dignan and Anna Wilkinson (Y6J) Mrs Cole, who produced and directed the show alongside Mrs Sullivan, said "In the words of the song, our pupils were 'shining, shimmering and splendid' in their two outstanding performances. Congratulations to each and every one of them!"

