

# TAKING STOCK



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# SCHOOL LIFE

## Head's Column

### What are your greatest memories of your school life?

Although I remember some of my school lessons with fondness, my best memories are not from the classroom, they're from the events and activities that took place outside the classroom. I believe it was these that really formed my character, even if I didn't realise it at the time!



At school, I wasn't the most sporty pupil. I remember stating very firmly to my Games teacher in Third Year: "I don't do running." However, with hindsight, I can see I gained so much from my participation in sport at school. Growing up in rainy West Cumbria, I developed grit and resilience from taking part in the annual (always wet) House cross country competitions, even if I did lose the odd trainer in the process. Through netball and hockey, I learned how to work as a team, being understanding of my teammates and learning to communicate clearly with them.

My natural interests lay more in music and I was a member of the choir and orchestra. Just like in sport, teamwork and collective responsibility within music ensembles are so important. I learned just how satisfying it is to work together to produce something amazing. I still remember so clearly the exhilarating experience of being part of a choir singing 'Zadok the Priest' in a large venue. But one of my best musical memories from school was going on a Choir tour to Germany, travelling along the Rhine and performing at various venues along the way.

The area of school life that I think really developed my confidence and communication skills was drama. Whether it was in the school pantomime (there may be some embarrassing photos of me as Aladdin somewhere!) or in something more serious, I learnt the importance of practice and preparation and the thrill and adrenaline rush of a live performance.

Here at SGS, there are so many opportunities for pupils to take part in clubs, activities and trips as we can see in this edition of Taking Stock. My advice to every pupil is to embrace these opportunities so that you can have the experiences that might inspire you and shape the person you become. I hope this allows your memories of SGS to be as wide-ranging and fond as my own school memories.

**Mrs Sarah Capewell**  
Senior School Head

## Speech Day celebration of pupils' success

The grand Art Deco surroundings of the Stockport Plaza played host to the 2023 Senior School Speech Day as the school community came together to celebrate a year of success at SGS.

Chair of Governors Mr Christopher Dunn delivered the opening address before the Big Band entertained with their performances of Eddie Vinson's 'Kidney Stew Blues' and the Theme From 'Family Guy'. The prizes for the year were presented by the Guest Speaker, Dr Matt Pritchard.



Retiring Head Dr Paul Owen gave the final Speech Day statement of his tenure and he captured the audience's attention with tales from his school days and the importance of pupils exhibiting zest.

Dr Pritchard, a Science magician and a Curator of Wonder, thrilled the crowd with his address thanks to his creative delivery and passion for simplifying the complex.

Dr Pritchard, who is an Associate of the Inner Magic Circle – one of only 300 people in the world to hold this distinction – also astounded children and adults alike when he showed them a number of his tricks.

The Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company, Charles Mackworth-Young CVO presented the Heads of School, Ella Glazier and Charlie Harrison with Gold medals specially commissioned by the Goldsmiths' Company.

Old Stopfordian President Mrs Krishanthi Carfrae closed proceedings with a vote of thanks to Dr Pritchard.



## Congratulations to our A-mazing A Level and GCSE students!

Students across the years celebrated their outstanding results following both A Level and GCSE results days.

Among those celebrating was Head Boy Charlie Harrison who was 'overjoyed' to receive four A\*s. Charlie will head off to study French and German at the University of Bristol. Head Girl Ella Glazier is excited to be heading to Jesus College, Cambridge University to study Natural Sciences. Tom Williams is also off to Cambridge University, to take up his place to study Geography at Emmanuel College.

Talented singer Ella Moran will head to the capital to study singing at the Guildhall School of Music. Among the students going on from SGS to study Medicine, Daood Malik is looking forward to starting his course at Nottingham University. Daood said: **"It feels real now and I'm very excited. I wouldn't have been able to do this without the support of my teachers."**

Lower down the school, Priya Burrow celebrated after receiving 9s across the board in her ten GCSEs. A very active member of the SGS school community, Priya is involved in Model United Nations and School Council as well as the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

**Visit the SGS website to read all the Results Day news.**



## Chair of Governors

We are delighted to announce that, following the retirement of Mr Christopher Dunn, the Governors have appointed Mr Jonathan Lee as Chair. An Old Stopfordian (1976-1983), Mr Lee studied at Durham before pursuing a career in business - he worked for international telecommunications companies and investment banks before setting up privately owned sales and marketing consultancies and property businesses. A keen advocate of lifelong learning, he completed an MSt at Cambridge University in 2017. Mr Lee joined the Board of Governors in October 2016. A longtime supporter of SGS's Bursary Scheme, he ran the Valencia Half Marathon on October 22nd to raise funds.

To read more visit:  
**community.**  
**stockportgrammar.**  
**co.uk/news**



## Visits to Places of Worship

During the Summer Term, pupils visited different places of worship to expand their knowledge of Religious Studies.

Third Year pupils headed to the Gita Bhavan Hindu Temple for a fascinating and intriguing religious and cultural experience.

Second Years made the short journey to the Mosque in Cheadle as they learnt more about Islam. Throughout their time in Lower School, SGS pupils visit the places of worship of six different major religions.

## Higher Education & Apprenticeship Conference

Lower Sixth students learnt more about the opportunities available to them after they leave SGS at this year's hugely informative two-day Higher Education & Apprenticeship conference.

The conference, which welcomed speakers from the universities of Sheffield, Liverpool, Manchester and Lancaster, is devised to assist students with their forthcoming applications for University, Higher and Degree level apprenticeships and the world of work.

Talks encouraged the pupils to consider approaches to the completion of their personal statements, how to prepare for interviews, how to improve their prospects in the employment market and what life will be like as a student.



Old Stopfordians Isabella Byrne (OS 2022) and Megan Callaghan (OS 2021), who are on degree apprenticeship programmes at AstraZeneca and Siemens respectively, spoke to students about their experience and what to expect if they choose that route.

Reflecting on the 2023 conference, Head of Sixth Form Mr David Stone said: **"The conferences are really useful for the Lower Sixth to understand what they can do following the receipt of their A Level results."**

**"It was great to have experts from Higher Education providers offer advice and tips and we are delighted to be able to call upon the wonderful staff at SGS to share their wealth of expertise. All of this prepares both pupils and parents to approach their plans for life beyond SGS with confidence."**



### Careers Convention

This year's Careers Convention was a great success with more than 300 pupils and their parents attending to meet with 76 delegates representing 21 universities and 40 employers and professions.

Careers Co-ordinator Mrs Helen Tadman said: **"Our biennial Careers Convention, which is for Fourth Year, Fifth Year and Sixth Form pupils and their parents, was incredibly well attended and there were representatives from many different fields. Many of our speakers commented on how our pupils asked interesting and relevant questions to find out about what they did. We hope the evening will have inspired many of the pupils to think about their future options."**



## Biologists relish unforgettable expedition to Honduras

At the end of the Summer Term 17 pupils from Fifth Year to Upper Sixth embarked on a Biology expedition with the biodiversity research and conservation organisation, Operation Wallacea.

The pupils spent two and a half weeks in Honduras, discovering the terrestrial and marine fauna and flora of the Meso-American corridor.

Time was spent in the Cusuco National Park where pupils assisted teams of researchers as they completed mist net bat and bird sampling, transect sampling of herpetofauna, searching for reptiles and amphibians, and light trapping of invertebrates including a number of moth species and the endemic jewel scarab beetle.

Pupils were also lucky enough to assist Dr Erica McAlister in her research into wasp and bee larvae for the Natural History Museum.

The biologists continued their work on Utila, part of the Honduran Bay Islands.

For their second week, some pupils completed their PADI Open Water dive qualification, whilst others completed a Caribbean Reef Ecology course with the practicals carried out either by diving or snorkelling.

Pupils were taught how to identify many of the different aquatic organisms common in the coral reefs at Utila.

During this week, the group also met up with Laura Service (former SGS Biology teacher and Old Stopfordian) who was delivering the course to University research assistants.

### Eco-Schools Distinction

Congratulations to our Eco-Schools groups in the Junior and Senior Schools – Stockport Grammar has achieved the Green Flag Award with Distinction! You can read all about our Eco-Schools work in the areas of Waste, Biodiversity, Marine, Water, Litter, Transport, School Grounds, Energy, Global Citizenship and Healthy Living in the Beyond the Classroom section of the website.



## Theatre in Education boosts confidence and skills

Third Year Drama pupils took their 'shows on the road' as they embarked on a module entitled 'Theatre in Education'.

The task for students was to devise a bespoke piece of theatre in response to a brief set by one of the local primary schools to support their learning module.

The Third Years took groups of Year 5 and 6 pupils from Adswold Primary School, Lady Barn House School, Stockport Grammar Junior School and St Thomas' CofE Primary School travelling through time, space and literature to create fun and educational sessions.

Director of Drama Mr Matt King-Sayce said: **"Our pupils benefit greatly from this experience as it not only boosts their confidence and challenges them to perform to an unknown audience in a space they are unfamiliar with, but it also provides the pupils with the initial skills and a framework for the devising component we embark on as part of the GCSE course."**



## Music Festival

On 23rd June, our talented musicians took part in the 2023 Music Festival with a day full of fantastic instrumental and vocal solos and ensembles. Featuring different classes for pupils of all ages and a wide variety of musical styles, the festival was enthusiastically supported by parents, pupils and staff. Amongst the many awards throughout the day, Liv Dow received the Adjudicator's Cup and Max Reeves was the Most Promising Lower School Musician. Head to Stockport Grammar YouTube to watch a selection of performances.



## LAMDA Awards

Congratulations to the 50 pupils who received their LAMDA results from their exams in Acting and Speaking in Public.

All pupils received either a Merit or Distinction which is an amazing feat for them all!

A special mention must go to Mason Peters in the Upper Sixth who received a Distinction at Grade 8 Acting. Many of the pupils are already working on their next exam with Mrs Moffatt who is also looking forward to teaching 15 new LAMDA pupils this year.



## Dancers delight at the Summer Showcase

SGS dancers embraced the opportunity to share the pieces they had been working on in their dance clubs since Easter at the Summer Showcase.

The informal show saw a wide variety of styles.

The First Year Dance Club kicked off with an upbeat jazz piece, 'Do Your Thing', and the Ballet Club performed the beautiful 'Bluebird Variation' from Sleeping Beauty.

The Boys Only Club danced to Queen's 'Another One Bites The Dust' whilst Mrs Le Roux's Contemporary Masterclass performed a piece inspired by the British weather!

Many of the dances were created, choreographed and taught by the pupils.

Fifth Years Anjali Abraham and Nathan Liu created a beautiful and intricate piece for the First Year Contemporary Club to perform, and two other modern jazz pieces were created for our Second and Third Year dancers by Upper Sixth pupil Fiona Telfer.



Artsmark  
Platinum Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

## We are Platinum!

We are delighted to announce that this summer SGS received the highest possible rating from the Arts Council England, with a Platinum Artsmark Award. By awarding Platinum, a level held by only a small number of schools in the country, the Arts Council has recognised the exceptional standard of creative and performing arts at SGS, and the school as an 'opinion former' 'making a difference' in the wider community.

Director of Drama Mr Matt King-Sayce led the process of applying for the Award: **"I am very passionate about the arts and I knew when I joined SGS in 2019 that I wanted to shout about the amazing opportunities that our students can enjoy, as well as sharing our facilities with the wider community. Things like our Year 5 Art Competition and our Arts Award work were an amazing foundation to our application, which we then strengthened through our work with local Primary Schools and elsewhere in the community."**

Visit the school website for more information on the Award.



## Art Exhibition

Congratulations to our fantastic A Level and GCSE Art students on the stunning display of their work at the annual Art Exhibition evening. The culmination of many years of dedicated work and support from their teachers, the students' talent has been captured in this year's Art Catalogue. Please contact the External Relations department if you would like to receive a copy.

## Perfect Comic Timing



Pupils from a range of Senior School year groups delivered two comical performances of 'The Production That Doesn't Quite Go As Well As Expected'.

The shows, which took place in the Sixth Form Centre, were divided into two acts – the Senior Society's production of 'Murder At The Manor' and the Junior Society's take on 'Peter Pan'.

Lower Sixth student Alice Thomson commented:

**"I really loved being part of such a lovely team and having the opportunity to contribute our own ideas. It is an experience I will never forget."**

# CO-CURRICULAR

## At the heart of the political system

Twenty Lower Sixth students headed to London on an exciting trip that saw them visit the Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court.

The first part of the trip was spent in the Supreme Court, where the students were given a guided tour of the Court and learnt about the distinct and important functions of the highest court in the UK.

In the afternoon, the students were taken on a guided tour of the House of Commons and House of Lords, led by a member of the Parliament Education Centre's team.

The group spent time in Central Lobby before heading into Westminster Hall. For the historians in the group, this allowed them the opportunity to visualise the trial of Charles I in 1648 from where he was sat!



## French Exchange Trip

Third and Fourth Year Modern Foreign Languages pupils had an amazing time as they embarked on the return leg of the school's French exchange with Collège Sévigné.

Upon arriving in Paris, the pupils spent the weekend with their hosts. As the week began, they enjoyed a guided tour of the city's Latin Quarter and went to Notre Dame.

An open top boat ride on the Seine also thrilled the linguists.

During a day in Montmartre, an authentic village in the heart of the French capital, students visited the

awe-inspiring Sacré-Cœur and the Musée de Montmartre.

In Bastille they took part in a workshop at the Atelier des Lumières, an interactive art exhibition about Marc Chagall.

The final day of their trip saw them spend the morning in their host school working on their French language skills in lessons.

French Teacher Mr David Lorentz said of the trip: **"What an eventful trip! The pupils were brilliant and it was an incredible life experience."**



## First Years Get Busy

The Hallam Hall was buzzing as First Years attended the Activities Fair to see what clubs they could sign up for this academic year. Lots of the clubs held stalls, which were run by both staff and pupils who were on hand to answer any questions. Clubs included Archery, Eco Schools, Kayak Club and Chemistry Club. With over 200 co-curricular opportunities at SGS, we only have space here to list a few!



## Aberdovey trip

During the last week of the academic year, more than 100 adventurous Second Year pupils headed to Wales to take part in a challenging adventure at Outward Bound Aberdovey.

The trip is a great way for our Second Year to try new activities and meet new friends. The course was split to include an overnight expedition with wild camping and two big days out. Each group enjoyed different activities which included canoeing, scrambling and even pier jumping!

The activities really pushed everyone to work on their teamwork skills, and encouraged the pupils to step out of their comfort zones and try new activities.

Third Year, Evan Rodgers said: **"I enjoyed the hike because it was something I had not done before – I really enjoyed the view from the top of the hill we went up."**

## Linguists love immersive trip to Madrid

Third and Fourth Year Modern Foreign Languages pupils enjoyed working on their linguistic skills and broadening their cultural knowledge on their trip to Madrid.

After a long journey to the Spanish capital, pupils explored the city to get their bearings and visited famous landmarks such as the Palacio Real, the Mercado de San Miguel and the Plaza Mayor – a huge public space in the heart of Madrid that was once the centre of Old Madrid.

Over the weekend, they continued to immerse themselves in Spanish culture by visiting Spain's most important bull ring, Las Ventas, followed by a cookery class where they collectively made Tortilla Española, Paella and Tarta de Santiago for their lunch.

Reflecting on the trip, Spanish Teacher Mrs Katherine Psaila said: **"It was a pleasure to take the pupils to Madrid. They all immersed themselves fully in the activities and were a real credit to the school."**



# SPORTS

## Fallows Shield Winners

**1st Warren**  
**278.5 points**

**2nd Nicholson**  
**271 points**

**3rd Vernon**  
**254.5 points**

**4th Arden**  
**254 points**

## Pupils put their best foot forward at Sports Days

The penultimate week of the Summer term saw pupils compete to win points for their House as they took part in their Sports Days.

The Third Year Victrix Ludorum was won by Molly Mills, whilst Josh Muamba and Oscar Miller shared the Victor Ludorum. The Fourth Year Victrix Ludorum was won by Lily Groves and the Victor Ludorum was won by Jack Williams.

A range of records were broken by Third Year pupils too.

Oscar Miller's time of 24.46 secs in the Boys' 200m beat a four-year-old record whilst Molly Mills secured a new record in the Girls' version with a time of 26.46 secs. Molly also broke the 2018 record in the javelin with a throw of 30.70m.

The 2018 record in the Boys' 300m was beaten by Chris Parikh's time of 39.47 secs and Zach Rose's 4:43.00 minutes in the Boys' 1500m was the first new record in the event in 10 years.

Visit the SGS website for a full report on Sports Day results.

## First Years' Sports Event

On September 2nd, our Sport, PE, Health and Fitness department ran their annual event for First Years where the children received their first taste of sport at SGS.

Over 130 pupils took part in hockey, dance, netball and rugby and a great day was made even better by a sprinkling of sunshine!

Director of Sport  
Mr Andrew Marsh said:  
**"The effort, enjoyment and enthusiasm were second to none and, needless to say, we are looking forward to continuing to work with the pupils more closely this year."**

## Noah's fundraising challenge

Congratulations to Third Year pupil Noah Martin-Evans who raised £755 for the RSPCA over the summer holidays by climbing the Three Peaks.

Noah is incredibly passionate about animal welfare and he wanted to challenge himself to fundraise for a cause close to his heart.

He trained hard ahead of tackling Scotland's Ben Nevis, England's Scafell Pike and Snowdon in Wales.



## Cross Country Championships

Over 80 pupils represented the school at the Stockport Schools Cross Country Championships.

Despite the difficult conditions, the pupils represented the school well – with some being invited to represent the Stockport Town Team later in the year.

Fourth Years Chris Parikh, Zach Rose, Sam Hill and Arthur Wolstenholme all qualified for the next round with fellow Fourth Year Will Jones and Sixth Former Tom Farrelly following closely behind.



## Fitness Suite gets an upgrade

Senior School pupils will be able to benefit from new equipment and a renovated Fitness Suite thanks to support from the Stopfordian Parents' Association (SPA).

Pupils can use the Fitness Suite at lunchtime every day, in addition to some early mornings, to work on their strength and conditioning. PE lessons also make use of the Fitness Suite.

Director of Sport Mr Andrew Marsh said: **"Thank you to the Stopfordian Parents' Association for their amazing support. With the collaboration between the Sports department and the SPA, I am extremely confident that we now have tools to further develop our young athletes with the aim of increasing student wellbeing, whilst simultaneously developing a competitive and high-performance culture."**



## Sport Season Returns

Our pupils are thrilled that the sports season has returned with the start of the new academic year.

The U15 and U13 netball teams were successful in the First Round of the Independent Schools National Cup as they saw off Queen Ethelburga's and Lymm High School respectively.

The 1st XI hockey team welcomed Bradford Grammar School and the U18 netball team hosted North Chadderton School in the First Round of their National Cups.

# JUNIOR SCHOOL



## Head's Column

I always enjoy the first assembly of the academic year – the children are full of excitement for the year ahead and their boundless energy and enthusiasm following their summer break is infectious! My first assembly this academic year focused on 'trying something new' and developing curiosity – I related this to my holiday and trying, for the first time, horse riding. I'm certainly not a natural, but I enjoyed the second half of the ride – not the first half! Perseverance and showing determination is really important as children try new things.

I discussed the range of clubs we have in the Junior School of which there are 59 this term – from reading to archery and swimming to orchestra. I hope that all the children trying something new for the first time this term grasp the opportunity and stick with the challenge!

In this edition of Taking Stock, we look back to the last academic year and celebrate some of the events that took place towards the end of the Summer Term. Firstly, the Choir Tour to Cambridge; this was an amazing opportunity for the children and included singing in Trinity College Chapel. The children formed memories which will last a lifetime! Our Sports Days were a great opportunity to bring year groups together and included a last-minute change of plan with Nursery, Reception and Year 1 and 2 having their events inside due to the weather. The children adapted to the change extremely well. Last term also saw several exciting residential visits and our plans for this year include our 'normal' residential visits programme and also a Sports Tour. A Choir Tour is also in the pipeline!

I hope that you enjoy catching up on Junior School life and learning.

**Mr Matthew Copping**  
Junior School Head

### Perfect Pet

Year 1 enjoyed learning the story 'WANTED: The Perfect Pet' by Fiona Robertson.

The children wrote their own instructions and followed them carefully to create 'The Perfect Disguise'! The pupils also had lots of fun pretending to be ducks disguised as dogs!



## Trip to The Lowry

Year 2 enjoyed an artistic start to the year. They visited the Lowry Museum and met two artists as part of their topic about Manchester artist, L.S. Lowry.

The children split into two groups, each group completing an 'Industrial Landscape' workshop with Fay and a 'Portrait' workshop with Nicola. Mr Taylor, our Art & Design Technology lead was thoroughly impressed with the effort and focus of the children throughout the day and the quality of work they produced, which was excellent.



## Residential Round-up

During May, pupils in Years 4, 5 and 6 had an unforgettable time as they embarked on their residential.

Year 4 headed to Acorn Adventure's Woodland Adventure set next to the West Midland Safari Park.

During the day, the girls and boys tried their hand at fire lighting, shelter building, camp crafts, axe throwing, a nightline and forest orienteering. They even took part in the Acorn Olympics!

In the evening they played games in the wood and cooked marshmallows on the campfire.

Year 5 pupils had a fantastic time at The Hollowford Centre in Castleton.

Throughout the three days they were kept very busy with a variety of activities that included raft building, caving, bouldering, climbing the high ropes course and taking 'the leap of faith'.

Year 6 children embarked on a journey of adventure and growth as they visited Tower Wood on Lake Windermere.

Braving new heights, the pupils conquered their fears through caving, zip lining, climbing and gorge scrambling. Activities like giant paddle boarding, canoeing, tree climbing and hiking tested their teamwork and perseverance and the children made lasting memories as they pushed themselves beyond their comfort zone.

These activities not only encouraged personal growth but also strengthened the bonds within the year group, forging new friendships.

As the children returned to school, they brought with them cherished memories, a sense of accomplishment, and newfound confidence.

## Junior School Sports Day

Junior School pupils enjoyed taking part in their sports days at the end of the Summer Term.

Relay races and the long-jump were among the many events.

The events were superbly attended by family members and the Stopfordian Parents' Association did a sterling job with the refreshments.

When all of the totals were collected, Vernon finished top with 909 points and Arden came second with 834. Nicholson placed third (812) with Warren ending up in fourth (776).



## Fantastic mobile farm visit delights Nursery pupils

Nursery boys and girls were thrilled to welcome Little Barn Mobile Farm into school as they found out more about farm life and caring for animals.

The visit, which is part of the 'Understanding The World' section of the curriculum, saw a wide range of animals make themselves at home in the Junior School.

Natalie from Little Barn Mobile Farm arrived with Rocky the calf, Lucy and Lola the lambs, Bertie the guinea-pig, Rose, Bettie, Peter and Benjamin the rabbits, Penny the hen and Jack and Jill the kid goats with their mummy!

She introduced all of the animals in turn, then the children had the chance to hold and stroke them. First up was the guinea-pig Bertie, who clearly loved a snuggle with the children! Natalie showed the girls and boys how to stroke him from his head then down his back and they heard him squeak and 'talk' as he had a cuddle.

Then came the rabbits – who were extremely fluffy – and all of the children were keen to hold and stroke them.

After that, the pupils met the other animals and quickly discovered that Rocky the calf liked to give them a quick lick if they stroked his nose!



## Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

Children in Year 5 have been encouraged to apply to become Anti-Bullying Ambassadors and will be given training in October, a special hoodie to wear at break times, and will be ready to support and guide children in and around school. Part of the nationwide Princess Diana Award, the Anti-Bullying Ambassador Programme has a strong peer-to-peer focus, giving young people skills and confidence.

## Positions of Responsibility

**Congratulations to all our Year Six children awarded a position of responsibility this term.**

Our Head Girl and Head Boy, Emily B and James W, will be supported by House Captains Lily R and Ellenor D (Arden), Zoe O and Fergus D (Nicholson), Lottie M and Al-Amin A (Vernon) and Cara A and Arjo D (Warren).



## Music demonstration engages pupils

The SGS Music department took part in a Junior School Assembly where they held a musical instrument demonstration.

Pupils were introduced to the double bass, clarinet, saxophone and French horn and were encouraged to think about what instruments they'd like to play this year.



## Sweet Excellence

The annual Prize Giving brought the Junior School year to a rousing conclusion. This year's guest speaker was Paul A Young, the ground-breaking and inspirational chocolatier whose TV credits include Saturday Kitchen. During his talk, and a workshop for Year 6 pupils earlier in the afternoon, his passion for his craft was clear to see and the audience loved finding out more about his work and his motivation. He also reflected on the theme of friendship as his own school days with teacher Mrs Carolyn Smith led to his visit to SGJS.



Along with speeches and the presentation of prizes for excellence in sport, music, academic subjects and contribution to school life, the celebration featured musical performances by the Years 5 & 6 and Years 3 & 4 choirs. The evening rounded off perfectly with a performance of traditional Jamaican song 'Janie Mama'.



### Stories engage imaginations

To kick off their English lessons, Year 2 have been exploring the fictional setting of the Isle of Struay – the basis for the Katie Morag stories.

The children have learnt all about Struay and had great fun creating their own brilliant maps!

## Musicians enjoy Cambridge Tour

The Junior School's Year 5 and 6 Choir enjoyed a fabulous and memorable four-day concert tour to Cambridge and Ely.

The pupils heard some of the world's best choirs sing services in college chapels and give concerts, and the children themselves had two opportunities to perform in Cambridge – in Trinity College Chapel and at the historic St Botolph's Church.

The children gave a wonderful concert in St Botolph's Church. As on Saturday, many SGJS parents made the journey to hear the children perform and the girls and boys were very grateful for their support. Many choir members performed beautiful solos, including a lovely rendition of 'Tango' by Albéniz, played by violinist Christina. After the concert, the pupils sat on Trinity Backs for the annual 'Singing On The River' event, and listened as Trinity's multi award-winning choir sang madrigals and arrangements of popular songs from punts on the River Cam.

