



### INTRODUCTION

Wow! What an amazing term it has been. It has been fast paced and hard work for the children and staff, but we've had an awful lot of fun too! The team building activities for Years 3-6, which you will read about, were a fantastic start to the year with children challenging themselves to do things outside of their comfort zones. All the staff got involved too and encouraged, supported, got wet and generally threw themselves into the day. We had the Early Years Grandparents' Coffee Morning, which was a great success, with many children performing for the first time in front of an audience. This is a real testament to the hard work and dedication of the Early Years teachers who are able to guide our youngest pupils so well. Year 1 teachers planned an amazing trip to the Haslemere Museum where the children were fascinated by a 'mummy' and Year 2 made excellent use of the local community by visiting Bourne Hall to see an old fire truck which linked to their topic about 'The Great Fire of London'.

I have been truly staggered by the generosity of parents and children this term and the support shown for our various charities: the School's Music Pavilion, BBC Children in Need and MacMillan with well over £1000 raised through mufti days and cake sales. Harvest Festival saw wonderful donations of food for the Epsom and Ewell Food Bank and you also provided beautiful boxes for 'Operation Christmas Child'. Just imagine those happy faces of children



around the world opening your gifts! Thank you everyone for making a difference.

I have loved my first term at Ewell Castle Prep School and I want to follow the lead of the Year 4 pupils during the Christmas Carol Concert and let you know that I am thankful for the children, parents, staff, governors and Ewell Village community for making me feel so welcome; I feel very lucky. I am looking forward to the Spring Term, and many more terms to come, in which we are constantly striving to improve upon our provision for the children. A new year, new beginnings and exciting things to come!

Warm wishes for a very safe and happy Christmas.

**Ms Sian Bradshaw**  
*Head of Preparatory School*

### YEAR 2 VISIT TO BOURNE HALL

We also went to Bourne Hall Museum to start our topic of The Great Fire of London. The museum has a very old fire engine that is made out of wood and it has a hose that is made out of leather. It shouldn't be called a fire engine because it doesn't have an engine at all! People would have to pull it themselves or they would use a horse. The water came out by pumping up and down. Some of us tried it out and it was very heavy and tiring. The fire lasted for a long time because the houses were made of wood and they were close together. There weren't proper fire engines like we have today so it was tricky to put out the flames as the wind was making the fire spread. Loads of buildings were burnt down but luckily not many people died.



## THREE PEAKS

On Friday 9th September 2016 Years 3 and 4 set off on our team building day to the Three Peaks Outdoor Pursuit Challenge at Barfield School with Mrs Rowe and Mrs Fisher.

Our first challenge was low ropes. This is where we had to help each other to complete this challenge. The first person goes first, but if they fall off they have to go back to the checkpoint or to the back of the line. The first bit of it was balancing on the wire. I put the back rope in front of me, so when I fell back the rope saved me and when I fell forward I could catch my friends' hand to help me. The second bit of it was where we had to shuffle across on ropes. I was sonic speed on that one. Next we had to get across a log without falling off. After that we had to sit down on a platform. We had to pull the rope to move and I didn't fall off! Then we had to go across a log then a wire and it was the dreaded zip wire. It was very quick.

Our second challenge was Quad Biking. I did full power and I went very fast. We had to be careful not to bump into anyone else on the track. I was in Group A with Ishaan and Kiran. I was at the back and I had a yellow helmet. Fraser taught us all Quad Biking and it was great.

After lunch we had Archery and Lukas was the champion, but I won one of the practice rounds. In the real thing I came third. It was great fun and I got an arrow in the red, blue, white, black and in the grass!! We had to be very careful with the arrows and only shoot when we were told to as it can be very dangerous.

Our last challenge was the high ropes and it was so high. Karl told us what to do and how to be safe. We had to wear a harness and a helmet. I climbed up the ladder and we had to jump off and reach for the bar or sit down and swing. I decided to stand up and jump and I did it! When I came down I turned upside down. It was the best trip ever.

**Year 3 Pupil**



I arrived at school at 8:15 and we got on the coach at 8:30. When we arrived we put our bags on the tables under the marquee. Then we found what activity we were doing first and we were doing archery. We were very excited. First we did one practice round and then two competition rounds. It was lots of fun. Next we did the high ropes. We did not know what to expect because we did not do it last year in Year 3. We were doing the leap of faith and I was bursting with joy when I found out because I had done it before at Center Parcs and I love it! I climbed right to the top of the pole and surprisingly felt a shiver of fear roll across my body as I stood on my feet and leaped for the bar. When I had caught it, I felt so happy and proud all at the same time. Next we went to lunch I had a school pack lunch, it was yummy! Then I went to the field and scored a few goals. Ms Bradshaw came over and scored against me and then she went in goal. A bit later a teacher

rang the bell so play time was over. Our next activity was low ropes, it involved going around a course using a lot of teamwork and at the end of the course there was a zip wire that was lots of fun. Lastly we did Quad Biking, I was so excited. First we were shown how to use a Quad Bike then we were given these epic helmets. On the first tiny bit of the first lap they helped us but after that I was off! It was so thrilling I went so fast on our last go. We got to go on the extra bit of the track which the other Year 4 class did not get to go on. On that lap I pushed the accelerator down as far as it would go and I went flying. Me and Lex nearly over lapped someone but we were not allowed to. Then we stopped and we went to put the quad bikes away in the work shed. We then went on the coach back to the school and got picked up by our parents at school. It was an awesome school trip!

**Year 4 Pupil**



Last Friday, I went on a magical school trip to Three Peaks Outdoor Adventure. It was amazing! I was very excited about the trip and went to school with a big rush. The weather was really nice and sunny.

When I was travelling in the coach, I enjoyed watching the whizzing traffic passing by. When we arrived at the car park, I got out of the bus with great excitement. I couldn't wait until the first activity started.

We went to a beautiful field where we all enjoyed archery. I got 14 points. The next activity was high ropes. I climbed up a big wooden log like a monkey.

Then we had lunch. I enjoyed eating tuna mayonnaise sandwich which is my favourite food. After lunch, I relished a rapid climbing frame activity. I sat in a tiny seat and whizzed across the sky.

Lastly, we went for Quad Biking. This was the best activity of all! I felt like I was driving a real car. I zoomed across the racing track. After the trip, I arrived home exhausted and tired. I had an amazing day with lots of fun at Three Peaks Outdoor Adventure. I can't wait to tell my parents! Wait 'til I see it again!

**Year 4 Pupil**



## MERCER PARK

On Friday 9th September Years 5 and 6 travelled to Mercer Park for an action packed team building day on the water. Activities included raft building, dinghy

sailing, kayaking and wind surfing. All the children enjoyed themselves immensely and learnt a lot.

**Mr P Young**

## HARVEST FESTIVAL



On Friday 7th October, St Mary's Church Ewell, once again hosted the Years 1 – 6 annual Harvest Festival celebration. It was a most enjoyable celebration, one in which we gave thanks for the quality and quantity of the food that most of us enjoy and where we remembered those who are not as lucky as the pupils and staff of Ewell Castle School. Thank you to all the families who donated food items, these were distributed to the Epsom & Ewell Food Bank.



**Year 3 Pupil**

## LANGUAGES DAY

We all had a wonderful time celebrating the “European Day of Languages”. At Glyn House the main language that was used was Spanish and at Chessington Lodge it was French. Children at Glyn House dressed in the colours of the Spanish flag or in their own national dress, whilst the pupils at Chessington Lodge dressed in the red, white and blue of the French flag or their national costume. The children had made flags from all over the world and these were strung into bunting to decorate the school. Pupils from different countries enjoyed sharing a few words and phrases with their classmates, who in turn appreciated how hard it is to try and pronounce words in languages they have never come across! Children could be heard greeting each other and their teachers in a host of different languages. Winners of the Assembly Quiz at Glyn House were awarded Kinder Eggs, but only if they could tell me what Kinder means!

Various activities took place across the whole school this year: Year 4 shared French games and games in French with Years 1 and 2, Year 6 pupils presented their independent research on



the culture and customs of Spain to pupils in Year 7, Year 7 pupils came to Glyn House to teach Year 3 French through fun games and Year 8 pupils even taught Year 4 how to dance the Macarena! The most popular activities were the French café at Chessington Lodge and the Spanish Tapas Bar at Glyn House. Pupils in Year 6 set up and served the food and the pupils in Years 3, 4 and 5 were able to sample Spanish food and learn some Spanish phrases as they took it in turn to visit the Tapas Bar.

We all had lots of fun whilst trying out different languages from around the world.

*Mrs B Grierson*



## REMEMBRANCE DAY



## SEWING SKILLS

Year 4 have been working hard this half term, practicing their sewing skills. We persevered through threading needles, tying on threads

and experimenting with different types of stitch to create some really beautiful patterns!

*Mrs P Hacker*

## NETBALL

The U8s and U9s have really enjoyed their netball this Autumn Term and have really improved their game. The U8s are developing their throwing and catching skills and beginning to understand the footwork rule and the different positions in the game. The U9s are playing extremely well with some talented shooters and very strong players in the year.

The squad have done extremely well in their matches against other schools. They have won games against Seaton House, Rowan, Chinthurst, Greenacre and Hawthorns School.

Netball Club has been well attended and the girls have enjoyed playing with other year groups supporting and encouraging play across the junior years.

The U10s and U11s have had a very busy netball season with numerous fixtures against other schools. They started with tough games against Greenacre which they battled hard against some very tall players! The U11s played in a tournament at Seaton House again with strong opposition but drew several matches. Through the season, they won fixtures against Seaton House, Chinthurst, Aberdour and Weston Green. Well done to all.

In the House matches, the winners of the U10/11 competition were Castlemaine. Raleigh finished in second place and Essex were third. In the U8/9s Essex were the winners with Raleigh in second place and Castlemaine third.

**Mr N Andrade**



## FOOTBALL

With an abundance of fixtures for all age groups, this has been an exciting term at Ewell Castle School.

The term started off with some outstanding performances by the U11 boys at the Shrewsbury House Tournament. In strong company the boys finished in a very creditable 3rd place in the Cup competition. The boys carried this form into the rest of the season and along with the U10 team achieved success in the Wednesday afternoon fixtures most notably achieving wins against Micklefield (2-0), Homefield (1-0), Surbiton High (4-1) and Weston Green (5-1). Only a narrow defeat against Aberdour prevented the squad from going through the season unbeaten.

The U8 team have shown a high level of enthusiasm and commitment throughout the season and achieved a number of victories in the Surbiton High Tournament. Here, they proudly

finished in 4th place with medals being awarded to all that participated. In the Thursday afternoon fixtures, the boys have achieved some good results with the highlight being a 4-1 victory against Chinthurst School. The U9s have trained hard and have shown significant improvement throughout the season. They achieved a creditable 1-1 draw against Homefield and in the match against Surbiton High, they were very unlucky not to score a winning goal. Here, they eventually drew 0-0. In the final game of the season the U9s secured a much deserved victory against Aberdour winning 1-0.

In the House matches, the winners of the U10/11 competition were Essex. Raleigh finished in second place and Castlemaine were third. In the U8/9s Raleigh were the winners with Castlemaine in second place and Essex were third.

**Mr N Andrade**



## HOCKEY FESTIVAL



The U11s attended a hockey festival at Greenacre School in which they won or drew every match and played extremely well considering it was out of season. We expect great things of them come Spring Term 2017!

*Mr N Andrade*

## CHILDREN IN NEED

We have some fantastic home bakers at the Prep School and many others bought a selection of delicious cakes and biscuits to sell at the two 'Children in Need' cake sales this half-term. The cake sales raised over £369.00 and the red spots Mufti Day raised £376.00 which also went to Children in Need. It was great to see that children from Glyn House managed both the cake sales themselves, with just a little help from members of staff. Well done everyone.



## PSFA CHRISTMAS FAIR



The PSFA Christmas Fair on Friday 2nd December marked the official start of Ewell Castle School's festive season. It was a lovely event which was attended by members of the whole School community from Chessington Lodge through to the Sixth Form. There were some fun stalls, festive themed activities, yummy treats for sale, as well as the opportunity to visit Father Christmas and beat the 'Elf' in the football challenge. Thank you to the PSFA for organising the event and decorating the Budgell Hall, thank you to the members of the Sixth Form for helping as well as members of staff. Funds raised were in excess of £2,100.



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Thank you to everyone who donated a decorated shoe box filled with gifts and goodies as part of the 'Operation Christmas Child' appeal this year. A fantastic 156 boxes were collected by the Samaritans Purse Charity and will be used to help to make a positive change in childrens lives all over the world.



## PREPARATORY SCHOOL ART



## NURSERY TO YR2 NATIVITY



## YR 3-6 CHRISTMAS CONCERT

