



INTRODUCTION



What a wonderful Autumn Term we have had. There has been an excellent balance of hard work and fun, which is exactly what school

should be about at this stage. Already, the children have achieved so much and it never fails to amaze me how they change over such a short space of time. Attendance this term is at 98% across the school and that would seem to indicate that the children are healthy (despite the usual sniffles) and happy to come to school.

Year 3 children began the term by riding quad bikes and dressing up as Egyptians. How is that for a way to kick the year off? Across the Prep School, children have taken part in trips, performances, exciting school-based activities and sports. We have introduced 'Blue Octopus' Days/Weeks - if you have not heard of 'Blue Octopus' - ask your children! These provide the children with opportunities to explore new ideas or activities. For the first of these, we ditched pencil and paper and held a practical maths week with collaborative problem solving and investigations taking place across the School. Year 5 also enjoyed a whole day experiencing life as a Victorian child in a living history day.

A number of events have taken place where parents have joined us and shown support for the very special ethos of the School. We feel like a community working together to create an amazing educational experience for our children and I am so grateful for all your contributions whether this is showing up to an event, supporting

our charities, giving up your time to help out or working with us to support your children.

Yet again, as a school, we raised over £1,000 for Macmillan and Children in Need with the Grandparents' Coffee Morning, the European Day of Languages and Mufti day and the local community benefitted from your generous food gifts displayed at our Harvest Festival. Thank you!

I must thank the PSFA who work tirelessly to raise funds and provide some super events for both children and parents. We had a very successful shopping evening and the Christmas Event was a huge success again raising over £3,000. The children have also enjoyed an entertainer as a Christmas treat courtesy of the PSFA.

The Autumn Term closed with the Early Years Nativity and the Years 1-6 Christmas celebration in the church. As ever, all of the children were superb from our youngest 'Whoops-a-Daisy' angels to the angelic voices of the children that filled St Mary's Church on Wednesday. The children's confidence and performance skills just get better and better and we are very proud of them all.

Do not forget the photography competition over the holidays (details on the website) and the very special evening planned with Paul Goldstein on 23rd January 2018. We do hope many of you will take part in this opportunity - be a Blue Octopus!

I wish you all a very safe and happy Christmas with a special thank you to staff for making this a fabulous term. Enjoy the rest - there is much more to come!

Ms Sian Bradshaw
Head of Preparatory School

EGYPTIAN WOW DAY

Year 3 have spent the Autumn Term learning about Ancient Egypt and kick started their topic with an Egyptian WOW day. The children (and teachers!) arrived dressed as ancient Egyptians or as archaeologists and spent the day eating and writing like Egyptians as well as creating various art projects. The children have really enjoyed learning all about Egypt and now cannot wait to begin their next topic, Rumble in the Jungle.

Ms K Garrod

THREE PEAKS ACTIVITY DAY

Year 3 and 4 had a very exciting start to their school year. On Friday 7th September they all travelled to Three Peaks to enjoy lots of outdoor adventurous activities. The aim was for children to step outside their comfort zone using a 'challenge by choice' process and to get to know the children in their classes even better. The children took part in activities such as quad biking, jumping the leap of faith, obstacle courses and team building activities. Great fun was had by all and by the end of the day we had some very tired but very happy children.

Ms K Garrod



YEAR 5 & 6 ACTIVITY DAY - MERCERS PARK



On Friday 8th September Years 5 and 6 went to Mercers Country Park. It was a long journey by coach. When we arrived, we got wetsuits which were cold at first but I warmed up quickly after putting mine on. Next, we got life vests. Soon, Years 5 and 6 got separated into different groups for different activities.

Firstly, I tried dingy sailing with Cameron which was a lot of fun. After that we did wind surfing or body boarding. I went with the wind surfing group. I had Cristiano as a partner so we got on the board and paddled away with our hands. When we got to our destination we attempted to stand up on and wind surf but that was a total and utter fail and we both fell instead. Gradually, our board started drifting away. We started panicking

and tried to paddle back but it was quite windy so the wind kept pushing us back. When we saw the instructor going around helping other people who were in trouble too we stopped panicking and just carried on jumping. Soon, we started getting cold. The instructor came, picked us up and brought us closer to the grass island. Now we were safe. That was super fun and one of my favourite activities of the day. Next, we did kayaking which was tough after a while because it is quite hard to paddle for so long. I was paddling out and away from shore with Cristiano and Ciaran.

It started to rain just when we were going to lunch. I had a chicken sandwich, juice and a cookie. The food was delicious I love it. After lunch, we did raft building. For that, we had

3 windsurf boards, 4 logs, 2 oil tanks and rope. There were two teams. The other team totally copied us with the design. We built a triangle with the windsurf boards at the bottom, tied it all together and then put one log through the middle as a spike. Then, we brought the rafts to the water. The instructor gave us oars and we could test our rafts. They floated but some water got through the bottom.

When it was time to go home, our coach got stuck in traffic and it took us over an hour to get back. This trip was a great experience and I cannot wait to do it again in Year 6. I enjoyed it much more than the activity days in Year 3 and 4.

Janie G

PRIORY COURT VISIT

Thanks to Ms Garrod for organising for our Yr4 pupils to make regular visits to Priory Court Care Home in Ewell, inspired by the Channel 4 programme "The Old People's Home for Four Year Olds". The aim of the visits is to build relationships between the two generations and bring fun and laughter to the residents.



LANGUAGES WEEK

At the end of September the Preparatory School celebrated the “European Day of Languages”. At Glyn House the main language focus for the day 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 at Glyn House had made flags from French and Spanish speaking countries and these were strung into bunting to decorate the School. Pupils from different countries enjoyed sharing a few words and phrases with their classmates.

Various activities took place across the whole School over the week and this year Year 4 shared French games and games in French with Year 2 at Chessington Lodge, whilst Year 3 pupils went over to the Senior School and were taught French by children in Year 7. Once again 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.

Whilst trying out all sorts of different languages and having a lot of fun, we also raised £236 from the Mufti Day, which we have donated to Macmillan Cancer.

Mrs B Grierson



GRANDPARENTS' COFFEE MORNING

On October 4th 2017, Nursery and Reception invited their grandparents to join the ‘World’s Largest Coffee Morning’, in aid of Macmillan Nurses. Many grandparents came to see us and we even had a set of great grandparents amongst us. The children sang songs, recited poetry and had a lovely time eating cakes and biscuits with their family. We raised £289. It was great to see so many grandparents.

Mrs C Leeds



FESTIVAL CHOIR

Festival Choir were delighted this year to be invited to perform in the Epsom Symphony Orchestra's annual Christmas Concert. We arrived and rehearsed in the Epsom Playhouse, the first opportunity for many of our younger students to experience being on a professional stage. The first half of the concert we had the privilege of sitting in the audience to watch the Symphony Orchestra. Intermission, then we were on! Conducted by Mr Fairhead and accompanied by Mr

Leeson and Mr Essenhigh, we opened with When Christmas Comes to Town with solos from the Music Captains, Toba and Alisa. This was followed by Jingle Bell Rock and Calypso Carol. Then the Year 5s and 6s (now known as the Prep Chamber Choir) performed Michael Head's exquisite Little Road to Bethlehem. Finally we closed with the exquisite American tune of Away in a Manger, with solos from two Year 5 boys, Henry and Josh.

Mr T Fairhead

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE



REMEMBRANCE SERVICE



Remembrance, as always, was an event that gathered the whole School together to reflect and be grateful for the peace we so often take for granted. Both Mealor's Wherever You Are and Whitacre's Seal Lullaby as reflective items from our choirs and poems and readings from students from Year 6 to Year 13 allowed us a valuable chance to pause amidst the busyness of the second half of the Winter Term.

Mr T Fairhead

YEAR 1 AND YEAR 2 TRIP TO THE LOOKOUT, BRACKNELL FOREST

On Friday 17th November, we went on a School trip to The Lookout, Bracknell Forest. We left school by coach and arrived at 10am. We met Shane our Explainer who told us what we were going to do.

I was with Mrs Fulbrook, Emily, Chloe, Louis, Srijan and Izaak.

First, we went to the parachute. You had to push a red button until it reached 80 degrees and then press the green button when it glowed. This made the hot air balloon rise to the ceiling.

We then looked at gravity and how the air moves around the earth and holds it up. This made it spin around very fast.

We went upstairs and experimented with a magnetic wall. We had to build a tunnel of tubes, which were joined together from the top to the bottom.

This connected to a tube, which pushed air through it. We put a ball at the bottom, which floated up. When it reached the tunnel, it came through and went back down to the bottom.

We then made helicopters out of paper and made them float by air, which pushed up from the bottom.

After this, we went to a fire and light show. We watched experiments showing how fire was made and different chemicals that are mixed together to make different colours.

Once we had lunch, we went to the water experiments. We made the boat go from the top of the stream past the gate, through the red dam, which blocked the boat, but not the water. We pushed bubbles through some thick liquid by using a pump.

Finally, we visited the light and shadow room where I was able to shake hands with myself! We had a fantastic day, it was fun!

Charlie M



SCIENCE QUIZ

Preparatory School pupils from Yr5 and Yr6 took part in the National Inter-School Quiz Championships at Danes Hill Surrey Hill School in November. They did wonderfully well in an exceptionally difficult competition, finishing in 3rd place, just beaten to 2nd place on the last question.



PREP SCHOOL NETBALL REPORT

What a great season it has been for girls' netball. We played 14 matches against other schools and have won 9 of these. Gold and Silver medals have been won in tournaments and the U10/11 House netball afternoon was a close battle between Castlemaine and Raleigh with Raleigh just beating Castlemaine to the net.

A number of the older girls have been attending Netball Club with the senior pupils run by Miss Speed. This extra training session has paid off and has vastly improved their skills and game play. Successes shown in both the U11 Seaton House tournament and the U10 Aberdour Versatility Tournament were testament to this. Thanks to Miss Speed for running the club.

The Under 11 team have played to a very high standard this term. They won 5-4 against Seaton House, won 8-2 against Rowen and lost 3-1 against Sutton High. They also achieved 2nd place in the Seaton House Tournament against 7 other schools. The girls play so well as a team and have recently picked up speed with their quick decision-making which often puts them in an advantage over the other teams. A special mention to Lily Mae B for her superb intercepting and shooting skills.

The Under 10 team won all three of their matches, 3-0 against Seaton House, 3-1 against Sutton High and 8-2 against Rowen. They also won first place at the Aberdour Versatility Tournament beating 5 other schools to the Gold medal. This was a very proud moment for us all. A special mention to Estella V for showing excellent defensive skills.

The Under 9 team won two out of four of their matches, winning 2-1 against Aberdour and 3-1 against Seaton House. With losses against Rowen 3-5 and Weston Green 1-7. They also achieved second place in the Aberdour Versatility Tournament.

The Under 8 team have taken to the game quickly and have improved their skills of passing, receiving, marking and shooting throughout the term. They have good awareness of the rules and positions and are starting to look like a talented team. They have done well with two wins and two draws this season.

Well done to all the girls for their superb efforts. We have also seen some lovely examples of great sportsmanship and teamwork.

Mrs C Cope



PREP SCHOOL FOOTBALL REPORT

U8s

Credit must go to the U8s for their energy and enthusiasm this season. They are a young team and their experiences will serve them well for next season and beyond. At times, they found the competitive fixtures a challenge but nonetheless they always displayed a willingness to persevere right until the final whistle. There were many highlights during the season most notably some superb goals from Zach S, muscular defending from Benjamin N, some wonderful saves from Kian M and some exciting wins for the 'B' team against Weston Green and Kingswood House. Indeed the 6-0 win against Kingswood House was a definite high point for the boys with a hatful of goals from Callum Q. Well done to all the boys this season.

U9s

It certainly was a busy season for the U9s with the boys playing fixtures most Thursday afternoons. The boys trained hard and their efforts were rewarded with some excellent performances against opposition schools. There were some fantastic wins against Homefield, Chinthurst, Surbiton High, Weston Green and Aberdour and a highly exciting end to end draw against Kingswood House. Both the 'A' and the 'B' teams developed into close-knit groups and displayed some excellent interplay and teamwork on the field of play. Of the memorable moments this season was the great performance from the 'B' team defeating Weston Green 4-0 and in the last second of the last game, Harry R scoring the winner for the 'A' team to defeat Aberdour 2-1. Special mentions must go to Kiran G for his creativity in the middle of the park, Oliver L for his virtuoso performance in goal in the win against Chinthurst and to Lewis C for his industry and endeavour throughout the season. Well done to the boys this season.

U10/11s

With many of the fixtures this season involving mixed age group teams, it was a good opportunity to blend the experience of the U11s with a talented group of U10s. Of the fixtures played this season there were some fantastic performances most notably coming in the wins against Homefield, Aberdour, Kingswood House and Micklefield. Indeed the 'double victory' over Homefield and Aberdour on a sunny Wednesday afternoon in October was the stand out moment of the season. Training

throughout the season was generally good but remembering to maintain concentration and focus throughout is always beneficial in order to further improve. In the U11s, special mention should go to both Alfie S for his leadership on the field and to Finlay R J for his strong defending. In the U10s, Cristiano N impressed with his talents up front and Rowan M stood out with his ability between the posts.

Mr N Andrade



PSFA

WOW! – it has been an amazing Autumn term for the PSFA! A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who has organised, volunteered and supported our many events during this very busy term. The fireworks in October were absolutely spectacular, one of best displays yet and once again the event sold out a week beforehand. There was a great community buzz to our inaugural Christmas Shopping Event in November – the prosecco was flowing and both shoppers and stall holders alike enjoyed the evening which was open to all – definitely one to be added to the calendar going forward! More recently on Friday 1st December we held our Christmas Fair, where we set a new record with running over 25 stalls and activities for the children, this however was only possible by the dedication of the pre-prep / prep school parents, teachers and the fantastic 50 volunteers from all years of the Senior School.

We also took the opportunity to canvas Year 7 and 8 pupils to see what events they would be interested in and we are very pleased to announce that on the evening of Friday 19th January we will be having our first Years 7 and 8 School Disco! A professional DJ has been secured and there will be a tuckshop, soft drinks and popcorn available.

We are always keen to strike the balance between organising community events for all as well as raising money for those special things – thanks to everyone's generosity and support we have raised a record breaking £6,360 this term alone! We will be spending some of this money on the Senior School; the School Council has asked for two additional table tennis tables as they have proven so popular with all years, and in the last week of term both the Pre-Prep and Prep schools each enjoyed an Entertainer who amazed them



with lots of Christmas magic. We are also shaping the requirements with Ms Bradshaw and Mr Harris for an outdoor learning space at Glyn House.

A special thanks goes to our PSFA Committee – a great team - for their dedication and support throughout the term – Clare Alford, Clodagh Brown, Tracy Dale, Jessica Gunson, Katrina Hartman, Esther McLenaghan and Lisa Salmon who work tirelessly, volunteering their time to organise events, to ensure everything runs perfectly. I would also like to personally thank Mrs Moran and Mrs Jayasena who over the past 5+ years have organised the 'New to you' clothing sales – with their children in Year 11 it is now time to hand the baton over – thank you both!

Finally, we would all like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

As we look forward to 2018, a couple of forthcoming dates for your diary:

19th January – Years 7 and 8 School Disco, friends welcome, tickets available NOW on ParentPay

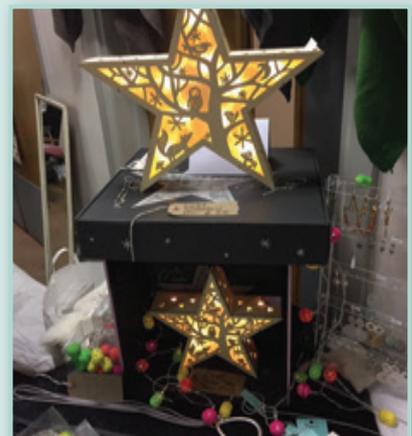
19th January – registration closes for the PSFA 100, tickets still available on ParentPay

3rd March - Comedy and Curry Night, all welcome

March – Easter Egg Treasure Hunt

1st July – Summer Ball in the Castle grounds

Emma Mitchell, PSFA Chair



CHILDREN IN NEED APPEAL

The Prep School held a Mufti Day and Cake Sale this term to raise money for the BBC Children in Need Appeal. Thanks to all the generous donations we raised a total of £525.65.



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



YEAR 5 VICTORIAN DAY

Year 5 was in for a treat – as well as quite a shock! – this term when they immersed themselves in the lives of Victorian children for a day. On Tuesday 5th December Mrs Vaughan (mother of Estella in Year 5) came to School, blackboard, chalk slates, dunce cap and stocks (yes, working ones!) at the ready to give the children the invaluable experience of living history. Dressed in Victorian costumes, the children worked hard throughout the day, not only through

fear of the dunce cap but because they were enthralled by the day, fascinated by the differences they discovered between their own lives and that of children from two hundred years ago and fully-engaged with their fun, informative tasks. We would like to thank Mrs Vaughan for all of the hard work she put in to providing Year 5 with this amazing day. Below is a small example of some of the work the pupils produced, this one from Priya S:

Impoverished children lived in slums, which were dirty and overcrowded. They had to drink dirty water and could get ill from it. Some children went to work to be chimney sweeps or coal miners or even collect poo! Other children went to ragged schools to become servants, whilst most orphans lived in a workhouse.

This shows that the lives of the rich and poor were very different and that the rich were very lucky and privileged.



PREPARATORY SCHOOL ART

Year 3 – Fruit baskets



Year 4 – Mosaics



Year 5 - Monet



Year 6 - Black and White Still Life Cezanne



NURSERY AND RECEPTION NATIVITY

On Tuesday 5th December, the Nursery and Reception children kicked off the Christmas celebrations at Chessington Lodge with their amazing show, 'Whoops-a-Daisy Angel'. They sang and danced their way through the story of poor clumsy Whoops-a-Daisy, who finally learned to be a proper, sparkly angel by

leading everybody through the story of the Nativity. The children were incredible, remembering their lines and movements, despite being so young, and everyone was very proud. Well done Nursery and Reception!

Mrs F Douglas



EWELL CASTLE SCHOOL
Presents
Christmas Cabaret

Wednesday 6th December 2017 - 7:00pm
A celebration of Christmas at Bourne Hall

With musical festive favourites, comedy sketches, dancing, mulled wine, berry punch and mince pies included.

Tickets - £7
available through ParentPay

The poster for the Christmas Cabaret features a blue background with silver and blue ornaments and bells. Below the text is a photograph of the Bourne Hall building, a large stone structure with a Santa Claus decoration on the roof.