



### INTRODUCTION



I love the Spring Term because it represents a time of new growth and of nature flourishing. This growth and flourish is mirrored in our children at the Prep School and wherever I look I see the children's growth both in their personal development and their academic progress. Year 1 have developed beautifully joined up handwriting, which they show off so proudly, and some of the stories written by children of all ages during book week were written with such charm and maturity. The Key Stage 1 performance included every child perfectly and they demonstrated such a commitment to learning lines and learning songs. This play was particularly special as it was written by Mrs Fowler with music from Mr Fairhead. It was a superb accomplishment and perfectly suited to our children. Year 3 performed a rainforest themed 'Words and Music' which was very slick and gave them a taste of performing both collectively and individually. Some of our Year 6 children performed in the whole School musical alongside Senior School pupils in 'Little Shop of Horrors' at the Epsom Playhouse and this is such a fantastic opportunity for them to take part in a huge ensemble in a professional setting. Big thanks to our colleague Mr Essenhigh, Director

of Performing Arts, for his genuine interest in the children and his desire to provide further opportunities for them to develop a love for performance. Year 4 embraced classical Greece in their production of 'Greece, the Musical!' and every single child shone. In all of these performances the children's self-confidence was evident and they are always a good measure of what is going on in school every day: the nurture, the inspiration and the achievement.

There has been a focus on Maths and Science too, with our 'Festival of Triangles' and 'STEM' Week where the children got their hands on, and their minds engaged in, a number of practical activities. The children were enraptured by a visitor from the National Physical Laboratory who demonstrated a variety of fun things to do with liquid nitrogen (not to be tried at home). Several children represented Ewell Castle School admirably in a national quiz competition, narrowly missing a place in the next round – next year! We always have such wonderful feedback about our pupils who visit other schools and we are very proud of them.

Sport continues to go from strength to strength and the children present brilliantly written match reports in assembly every week. There are definitely some budding sports commentators or journalists amongst our children. One of the highlights of this term is the Swimming Gala. The children enjoy the camaraderie with their fellow House members and it always encourages a great competitive spirit which is also entirely inclusive with every child swimming.

Thank you parents and children for your generosity in donating Easter eggs to the Tadworth Children's Trust

and thank you to the PTA for funding and organising our super Easter treats at Chessington Lodge and Glyn House.

I am exceptionally proud of our children and our School. The many events that take place in addition to the work that goes into the day to day routines are down to the dedication and hard work of the teachers and support staff. Thank you for a great term everyone and 'Happy Holidays!'

**Ms Sian Bradshaw**

*Head of Preparatory School*

### NURSERY & RECEPTION TRIP TO THE POLKA THEATRE

This is what the Nursery and Reception wrote about after visiting the Polka Theatre to see 'Into the Winter Wood':

*We went to the theatre. I liked seeing the lady (Joshua)*

*I like the wolf part. We had to howl. (Olly Bean)*

*We went on the bus. It was turtle-coloured. (Johan Smit)*

It was performed beautifully with lots of interaction from all the children. A lovely morning with the children behaving beautifully.

**Mrs C Leeds**



## YEAR 6 MATHS CHALLENGE

During January, some of our budding Year 6 mathematicians came off timetable to be part of a Maths Challenge Day. The pupils used Maths in Motion software where they simulate being a F1 driver, analysing the track using a protractor to measure the tight bends etc. inputting correct speeds and calculating the fuel and pit stops required. The day culminated in a very exciting race where Michael and Aryan won! Many of the pupils enjoyed the day so much that they have decided to become part of our Maths in Motion Club to extend their 'real life' Maths even further.

*Miss K Garrod*



## YEAR 1 & YEAR 2 WORDS AND MUSIC PERFORMANCE

On Thursday 7th and Friday 8th February, Years 1 & 2 took to the stage in a production of White Wings. Narrated by a group of nosey neighbours, it's a story about a little butterfly that is born with completely white wings. We follow her journey as she starts at school and struggles to fit in with all the other colour groups.

She makes the brave decision to quit school and take up a job but after her parents put her back on the straight and narrow, she returns to Flutterby School with renewed resilience. After a day of establishing

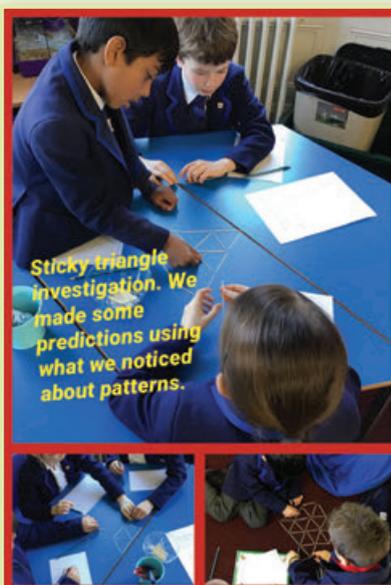
friendships, White Wings starts to feel ill and exits (stage right!) in the middle of assembly. When she returns, she stuns her classmates and teachers with her beautiful, new rainbow wings; she announces that she isn't able to decide between all their lovely qualities so she's rolled them all into one!

Well done to all the children for their fantastic performances, and a special thank you to Mr Fairhead for writing the music to my lyrics.

*Mrs S Fowler*



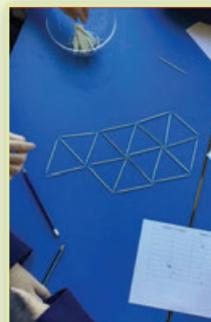
## MATHS WEEK



This year the Prep School Maths Week took the form of Festival of Triangles. Each class spent their week off timetable carrying out various triangle-based investigations. Some classes even managed to link other areas of the curriculum

including studying the Bermuda Triangle in English lessons and creating tangram pictures with triangles in Art.

*Miss K Garrod*



## LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS AT EPSOM PLAYHOUSE

At the end of February, Ewell Castle School performed Little Shop of Horrors at the Epsom Playhouse. Throughout our two evening performances and matinee we received standing ovations and week-long praise. The cast comprised a variety of pupils from throughout the School including both the Prep and Senior School, with pupils from Year 6 up to Sixth Form. This helps to establish a bond between the schools and allows the transition between them to occur more easily for the pupils, as they become accustomed to the senior environment and have been able to establish connections with its existing pupils. Not only was the cast compiled of a range of pupils, we also saw an upswelling of younger years filling the principal roles this year, with actors and actresses such as Evie Lambert playing the role of Audrey and Ted Boulting-Williams voicing the Plant. We truly treasure the experiences Ewell Castle is able to offer through the Performing Arts Department and allow pupils to develop their stage skills, as well as confidence, all whilst having an amazing time.

*Tom Hall / Isaac Conibear*



## PREPARATORY SCHOOL CHARACTER COSTUME MUFTI DAY TO LAUNCH BOOK WEEK



## BOOK WEEK - 'JOURNEY THROUGH LITERATURE'

During the week beginning 4th March, Chessington Lodge was taken over by book fever! In the build up to this annual event, mysterious posters appeared all over the school reminding the children that Book Week 2019 was coming soon!

This year we had the theme 'Journey through Literature' and our whole school focus was a beautiful, wordless story book called 'Journey' by Aaron Becker. This book really captured the imagination of the children and many activities were drawn from this text. Highlights included illustrating where the magic door led and writing descriptions to match, writing in role, making 3D bird models and magic carpets to name a few! Book Week really inspired the children to develop their creative writing skills and the work produced was very impressive.

A whole host of lovely activities took place during the week

including a fantastic dressing up day and costume parade, book trail, grandparent readers and story sharing with Key Stage 2. A Book Bingo competition was also launched to encourage the children to explore different types of stories.

It was lovely to see so many children take part in our 500 words story competition and we received entries with a whole range of themes and characters including unicorns, moon dinosaurs and even a ninja cat! All entries received a well done certificate and it was incredibly difficult to choose a winner. The Key Stage 1 winning entry was written by Samuel Davies in 2B, entitled 'Eat your Greens'; a fantastic, clever tale involving a multitude of inventions, a secret door way and hepta-duo-mille-pus!

A wonderful week was had by all and we are all looking forward to making Book Week 2020 even better.

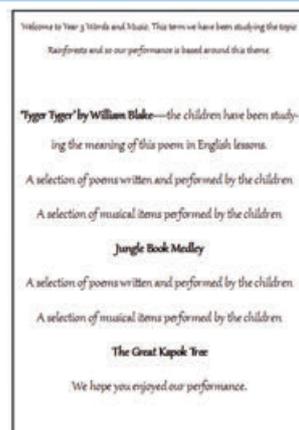
*Mrs L Patel*

## YEAR 3 WORDS AND MUSIC

Year 3 have spent the spring term learning all about the Rainforest and this led to a Rainforest themed Words and Music performance in March. There were some stunning performances by various individual musicians included piano, violin, drumming and singing. As a year

group there were some poetry performances as well as a recital of 'Tyger Tyger' by William Blake. The children wowed the audience with their confidence and enthusiasm! Well done all!

*Miss K Garrod*



## YEAR 2 TRIP TO THE MUSEUM OF LONDON

Year 2 went on an exciting and amazing trip to The Museum of London. I felt a little nervous because I did not know what it would be like.

First, we took a look at a model of the old St Paul's Cathedral and it had a pointy, mammoth spire and a bold, curved door. I was amazed!

Second, we saw the long, straight fire hook. No one found it except me and Miriam. I was so surprised where it was because it was on the high, cream ceiling! I was surprised because it was in an awkward place.

After that, we went to look at a dark, dim painting of the Fire of London. It had a shiny, shimmering frame. I was interested as I had never seen a painting like that before.

Finally we had a smart picture of our year group in front of the museum and went back to school. I was very tired and a little dozy!

I thought it was a fabulous trip and I want to go back on my own.

*Immy Kapoor, 2P*

## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ



Early in March, eight very excited KS2 children arrived at Hampton Prep School ready to compete against other schools on their general knowledge. The quiz questions were taxing for all (including the teachers and parents!) but both teams from Ewell Castle performed exceptionally well managing to place 4th and 7th out of 9. We were very proud of the exemplary behaviour and great team spirit that the children showed.

*Miss K Garrod*

## BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK - LIQUID NITROGEN FUN

During British Science Week, the Prep School were lucky enough to have a visit by Andrew from the National Physical Laboratory (NPL). Andrew brought with him liquid nitrogen and performed various impressive demonstrations including shrinking balloons by putting them into liquid nitrogen and turning the gas inside to liquid air. Freezing carnations and crushing them up was a real highlight for some of the children!

*Miss K Garrod*



## GLYN HOUSE STEM WEEK



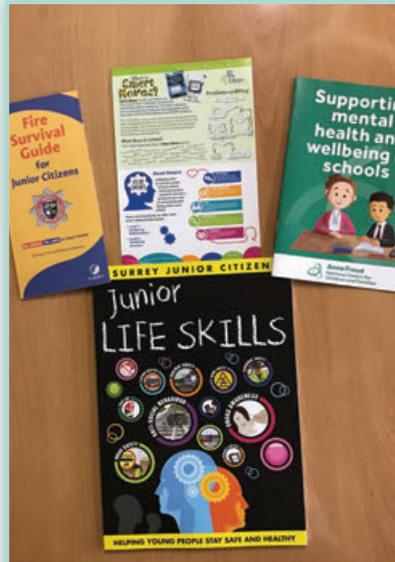
The Prep School this year focused on the theme of States of Matter. In particular, we looked at how we can prove gases are a real thing, as the common ones around us are 'invisible'. The pupils investigated this conundrum by looking at bubbles. The pupils learnt the Science behind how bubbles form and how to create the perfect bubble mixture. Finally, they had a competition measuring the diameter of their bubbles to see who could create the largest. Some of their results were quite marvellous!

*Mr P Young*

## YEAR 6 JUNIOR CITIZEN EVENT 2019

The Year 6 pupils travelled to Epsom Racecourse to participate in the Junior Citizen Event on Monday 11th March. The pupils took part in various talks and activities presented to them by specialists on a range of subjects, which focused on their health and safety. The activities included talks from: The British Transport Police, The Fire Brigade, various charities who highlighted the dangers of drugs and the importance of mental health, The Police, Community Nurses and the RNLI who discussed staying safe in the water.

**Mr P Young**



## YEAR 4 TRIP TO BROOKLANDS MUSEUM

On Thursday, 28th March, Year 4 had the opportunity to explore and understand the history of aviation at Brooklands Museum in Weybridge.

Our task for the day was to recreate scenes from the history of Brooklands, by creating and editing our own short films. The guide, Lucy, explained what the task involved and each group was given a story-board to complete. Roles were agreed: director, location finder, camera-operator, script-writer etc, and the groups went off to explore the locations that they wanted to film in. Then came the costumes! Getting into role was very important and we all felt part of our scenes. Off with the i-pads!

The sheer scale of the equipment, and the noise fascinated us all! Thanks to Lucy, and some helpful volunteers, the children filmed their scenes before and after lunch, ready to edit into one longer piece. Editing was completed by the children, who had to move scenes around adding fades and subtitles.

The results were amazing. We had tales of pilots, spies, scientists and a bossy teacher!

We all came away appreciating the world of the innovators of flight. It was a valuable trip.

**Mrs T Blakeman**



## YEAR 3 - YEAR 6 SWIMMING GALA



On Friday 22nd March 2019, Years 3-6 travelled to Cheam Baths for the annual Swimming Gala. There was much excitement in the build-up, with the pupils practising hard in their swimming lessons beforehand.

All the pupils swam in the Gala with the majority swimming in at least two events. There were 56 races in total and pupils competed in front crawl, back crawl, breaststroke and butterfly races. Throughout the Gala the scores were neck and neck. In the early stages, Raleigh took the lead but were steadily reeled in by Essex and Castlemaine as the Gala progressed. By the time of the relay races there were only three points separating the first two

houses. The relays were incredibly exciting with the Year 4 race being decided right on the touch. When the final scores were announced, Essex proved to be triumphant by the narrowest of margins with Raleigh in second and Castlemaine a close third. Only a point separated Essex from Raleigh!

Congratulations to all the swimmers that took part and a big thank you to all the staff that helped with the running of the event. It really was great to see the standard of swimming this year and well done to Estella Vaughan who won the invitation race and became swimmer of the year.

**Mr N Andrade**

## YEAR 4 PLAY

Zeus is angry: he's very, very angry!  
On Tuesday 26th March, Year 4 donned their tunics and sandals and stepped back in time to Ancient Greece. Their performance of *Greece: The Musical* was highly entertaining as they wowed the audience, both with their acting skills and their ability to learn so many lines! From Heracles, the odd-job man to the troupe of miserable mortals and the uplifting Chorus – everyone brought their characters to life and took their turn in the spotlight. Congratulations Year 4 – we eagerly await your Year 6 production: who knows what you can do with another two years to grow your talents.

**Mrs P Hacker**



## CONCERT IN ST MARY'S CHURCH



## YEAR 3 TRIP TO THE LIVING RAINFOREST

To celebrate the end of our topic of rainforests, Year 3 headed to The Living Rainforest in Newbury. This purpose-built rainforest is teeming with amazing plants as well as a great range of rainforest wildlife like poisonous frogs, sloths and monkeys. The pupils impressed our tour guides with pre-learnt information about bromeliads and epiphytes showing that they have really listened throughout our topic. We were blessed with a beautiful day of weather but this did make the conditions extra hot and humid, adding to the 'real-life' experience! As teachers, we were very proud of both the knowledge the pupils had gained as well as their behaviour, coping with the humidity at The Living Rainforest and during the long coach journey.

*Miss K Garrod*



## YEAR 3 - YEAR 6 HOUSE MUSIC



## BOYS RUGBY REVIEW

### U8s

The U8s have thoroughly enjoyed their first season of Tag Rugby. They have been enthusiastic participants in the training sessions and took this attitude into the competitive games where they had some good results and showed tremendous effort. Some highlights of the season include the performance at Homefield in their first game where the team succumbed to a narrow defeat and the performances against Aberdour and Chinthurst when they picked up some deserved victories. The team contained some elusive runners and some wonderful individual tries were scored. Throughout the season, the interplay between the team members was evident and noticeably developed as the season progressed - encouraging children to move the ball down the line to create space and gaps to run into can be a challenge at times! Individual mentions must go to Arthur Channing and Joseph Vaughan for their excellent performances this season and I have high hopes for this age group as they move into the U9 age range and contact rugby.

### U9s

I was delighted with the attitude and commitment shown by this age group throughout the season. They trained hard and listened well and were really enthused about the game of rugby. The age group put out three teams most weeks and many a selection dilemma was faced. In the competitive fixtures, the results did not always go their way but nonetheless the teams always put in a huge amount of effort and kept going to the end. The teams did though

achieve some promising results. Keenly contested draws against Caterham and Homefield were the highlights of a most enjoyable season as were some nice victories at the Aberdour Festival. I look forward to this age group progressing to U10s and to further improve the boys need to develop their ability to bring others into the game – realising when to pass or when to take the ball into contact is a developing skill for this age group. Some individual mentions for their efforts and accomplishments on the field must go to Zach Speight and Jacques Fourie also to Lucas Rubens for his marked all round improvement in confidence on the rugby field.

### U10s

The U10s have displayed significant improvement as the term progressed. I have been delighted with the way that they have played as a team and it has been pleasing to witness the interplay between team members. In their first game of the season they came up against a strong Aberdour team and then followed this with two closely fought encounters with Micklefield with the B team involved in a 16 – 14 thriller. The performances at the Aberdour Festival were very promising and in the final game, the team gained deserved revenge on Micklefield. In their final game, the U10s played out two close encounters with Surbiton. The B team were narrowly defeated by 11 tries to 7 with the A team involved in a thrilling 4-4 draw. As the team moves into the U11 age group, I am hoping for continued improvement and for them to pay close attention to their tackling and rucking. Once they have



more confidence in these areas of the game, they can further focus on their continuity of play that will bring them the points and results that their efforts deserve. There were a number of strong individual performances throughout the season but special mention to Harry Reid for his strong running and tackling, Kaelan Staschen for his distribution of the ball and to Constantine Markou for his improvement throughout the season.

### U11s

The U11s were able to field three teams on a regular basis that was testament to their strength in depth. The boys were keen and enthusiastic throughout and performed admirably during the season. In their first games against Aberdour, the U11s came away with three victories which displayed their power when running with the ball. Subsequently, against Micklefield and Chinthurst the boys came up against some strong sides. Technique at the breakdown was certainly a focus throughout the season and it was in this area that they came up short. At the Aberdour 7's Festival some close games ensued, and the boys achieved a deserved victory in the final game against Aberdour. In their final game of the season against Surbiton, the B team played out an entertaining 6-6 draw. They were the stronger side during the game but a few missed tackles towards the end cost them. In the A team game, Ewell Castle were runaway victors that ended the season on a high. Going forward, I hope that the successes and enjoyment of the season have contributed towards further developing a love for the game. Special mention to all the boys who have made this season so enjoyable, you know who you are!

**Mr N Andrade**



## GIRLS HOCKEY REVIEW

Most of the Year 3's had never picked up a hockey stick before this term and have come a long way during their hockey games lessons this term, from all crowding around the ball to now starting to find their space on the pitch.

They have played well in a number of matches against Aberdour, Rowan, Cumnor House and Chinthurst. The Chinthurst game was played in extreme gale-force winds, with the girls showing their resilience winning 3-0 in one game. A special mention to Chloe Fyfe for playing up with the U9 team on a number of occasions.

The U9's have started to gel as a team and have improved on their skill level since year 3. They played well against Aberdour, Rowan and Chinthurst, with an excellent 2-0 win over Cumnor House.

Unfortunately, the Banstead Hockey Festival was rained off but in the postponed game the girls finished on a high, winning 2-0 over Banstead Prep in a friendly last game of the season. Showing improved spacing and defensive skills.

A number of girls played against Homefield in two mixed hockey matches, they fought hard with some excellent saves but unfortunately Homefield were just that bit stronger.

Special mention to Eirin Brunning for being awarded 'Player of the Match' a number of times this season by the opposition schools.

The Year 5's and Year 6's have improved their game well over the term, with a number of games sessions taught by Welsh international player and Captain Miss Leah Wilkinson. We have been very lucky this term to use the new full size astro pitch at Epsom Sports Club on Old Schools Lane on a Wednesday; this new facility has enabled us to improve the girls' stamina and use of space and has generally made their game play a lot more effective. The new astro pitch has also been used for Hockey Club on a Monday after school this year and has enabled both boys and girls in Years 5 and 6 to improve on their skills, with expert coaching from Mrs Grierson. They have all played in a number of fixtures and some girls have taken part in tournaments against other schools. Unfortunately, a few matches were cancelled due to ice, snow and rain.

The U10's have had some excellent results this term, winning most of their matches. They played Cumnor House, winning 4-0. They won 3-2 against Banstead Prep. They also ended on a high against Rowan winning 3-0 and 5-2. Well done girls!

Special mention to Zahra Saleem-Sheikh and Zara Clinton for their skilful play, I hope you both continue

to play outside of school at club level.

The U11's had a great 4-1 win against Chinthurst at home and played in a very close game with Banstead Prep away just losing 2-3. The last match was against Rowan, the A's won 3-2 and B's lost 0-5.

A number of girls took part in the U11 Banstead Prep Hockey Festival. They had a great afternoon playing in 7 games. They won 3, drew 2 and lost 2. A special mention to Maiya Pool-Smith who was awarded the overall 'Player of the Festival' for her exceptional goal keeping skills. A number of the Year 6 girls would really benefit from playing outside of school at club level.

Some of the Year 6 girls also went to the U11 Weston Green Hockey Tournament. The girls had a fun day and it was a good experience for them but unfortunately, they achieved second in the Plate.

Special mentions to Priya Sinharay for her exceptional hockey skills this term and to Estella Vaughan for continued great work as Sports Captain.

Please see the Ewell Castle Sports website for all results and future girls' cricket fixtures.

Yours in sport,

**Mrs C Cope**



# EASTER BUNNY VISITS NURSERY AND RECEPTION

