



INTRODUCTION



It seems a long time ago that we kicked off the start of the Autumn Term with staff out in the grounds experiencing Forest School Activities!

However, staff and children are still smiling which is a sure sign that it has been a productive and happy term jam packed with events. There has been a big focus on charitable work and thank you for your support for our fundraising activities. Our mufti day raised £330.00 for 'Children In Need' and The Grandparents' Coffee Morning, Principal's Breakfast for Macmillan and Languages Day raised a whopping £574.00 for Macmillan. Years 5 and 6 have explored the topic: 'What is Wealth?' which led to a discussion about charitable work. In groups, the children identified a charity that they wanted to put forward to the rest of the Prep children to vote for as our new School charity for this year. The charities put forward were: Children in Need, Dogs Trust, Missing People, Rainbow Trust, WWF, Cats in Need and WE. All the children presented really well, but the winners of the vote were Oliver and Flynn in Year 6 for their presentation about WE; more information can be found here: <https://www.wecharity.org>. We look forward to some exciting fund

raising events lead by Oliver and Flynn this academic year. Mr Andrade is also running the London Marathon in aid of The Rainbow Trust so early in the Spring Term we will focus on supporting his fundraising efforts too.

I am delighted that the children are now able to access libraries at both the Prep and Pre-Prep. We invited author Cliff McNish to the Prep School in October to talk about his books and the writing process to Years 3-6. He was very complimentary about our children and asked them to help critique his new book. He has since returned to spend some time discussing books with our Reading Club.

There have been other opportunities for children to demonstrate their communication, presentation and writing skills too this term. We had a whole School Poetry Competition and an Upper Prep School Balloon Debate in which the children had to persuade the audience why they should not be thrown out of a hot air balloon that was too heavy and in danger of crashing! In the end, the winner from Year 6 was Leonardo Di Vinci and Thomas Edison in Y5 – congratulations!

There have been a number of opportunities for parents to get involved in School life, either supporting the PTA with their fantastic events, which benefit the children hugely, or to see what goes on day to day for the children through performances, assemblies and classroom visits. This term parents of children in Reception and Nursery were invited in to Early Years to see a lesson in action and feedback was so positive that we are hoping to roll this out across the School – watch this space!

The Early Years Nativity, Key Stage 1 Christmas Show and the Prep Christmas Celebration are now finished and costumes packed away for another year. The children performed beautifully and it never fails to delight us all to see their developing confidence. I hope that you will enjoy reading all about the other events that have taken place this term.

I wish you a wonderful, safe and Happy Christmas and we look forward to seeing you again in the New Year.

Ms Sian Bradshaw
Head of Preparatory School



THREE PEAK TRIP YEARS 3 & 4

On Friday, 6th September, Years 3 & 4 excitedly set off for their Three Peaks team-building day. This was an opportunity for those in Year 4 to build on their achievements from last year, whilst the Year 3 children were off on a brand new adventure. As usual, we were greeted by our instructors, who explained the layout of the day for us and put us into groups.

The children had a packed day! They climbed the high ropes and used teamwork and communication to follow the new 'low ropes' course. Some excellent driving was witnessed on the go-karts, where control and steering were well observed.

The team problem-solving tasks are a great opportunity for the children to work together as a team, listening to individual ideas and finding solutions.

We would like to thank the team for their support and encouragement, and the squirrels for not eating our lunches!

Mrs T Blakeman



THAMES YOUNG MARINERS TRIP



Years 5 and 6 had their team-building day at the Thames Young Mariners centre in Ham this year. They had to tackle various tasks aimed at improving their leadership, teamwork and communication skills. Some of the highlights included

building and testing rafts and the challenge courses. It was a valuable learning experience with all children immersing themselves fully in the activities.

Mr P Young



HOBGOBLIN THEATRE

Hobgoblin Theatre visited Year 3 on Friday 20th September and performed an original and entertaining play for the children to start off their Ancient Egyptian topic. 'The Curse of the Mummy' was both informative and enjoyable for the children. They were particularly impressed by the three actors who played multiple roles! After watching the play, the children had the opportunity to take part in an acting workshop where they created tableaux of scenes from Ancient Egypt.

Miss Emily Lloyd



EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES



We had a wonderful time celebrating the "European Day of Languages" at the Prep School. Children at Glyn House dressed in the colours of the Spanish flag or in their own national dress, whilst Pre-Prep pupils dressed in the colours of the French flag.

Pupils from different countries shared a few words and phrases of the language they speak at home with their classmates.

The most popular activities were the French café at the Pre-Prep and the Spanish Tapas Bar at the Prep

School: Some pupils from Year 4 went down to Chessington Lodge to serve at the French café; Year 6 designed and produced signs and set up the food; and the children 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.

Proceeds from the Mufti day were donated to MacMillan. This year we raised £243.00.

Mrs B Grierson

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING





POETRY DAY 2019

The Pre Prep and Prep School along with KS3 held a poetry competition to mark National Poetry Day.

The children had a special assembly to launch the competition where they listened to a variety of different poems to inspire them. We were pleased to receive many poems from a wide range of subjects from dinosaurs, the environment and even annoying siblings! Judging all the fantastic entries was a challenge but thoroughly enjoyable. A joint achievement assembly was held for the Prep School and Key Stage 3 and a separate assembly for Pre-Prep. We were very lucky to have a published poet, Rachel Sambrooks, deliver the Prep School assembly and share some of her poems. She also read the winning entries and presented the prizes. The winners were Avinash with his poem, 'Winter', and Zach with his poem, 'Living with the Land.' Many entries were received from Key Stage 1 and the winning entry came from Olivia with her poem entitled 'My Pet Ocelot'. Well done to all the children who entered and worked hard to write some excellent descriptive and emotive poetry.

Mrs L Patel

REMEMBRANCE DAY



AUTHOR VISIT AND CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

To celebrate the launch of our new school library, the Prep School were thrilled to have a visit from author Cliff McNish. Author of the award winning Doomspell series, Cliff McNish led a series of writing workshops, throughout the day, focusing on planning, troubleshooting writer's block and creating an excellent adventure plot. The children took away so many valuable tips and inspiration for the own writing! Mr McNish then returned to visit our Book Club, on the 10th December and a very productive time was had, brainstorming truly unique and scary villains!

Mrs P. Hacker



HARVEST FESTIVAL

On Friday 4th October, KS1 pupils performed a super Harvest Festival Assembly at St Mary's Church, which was followed by a KS2 Harvest Festival Assembly later that morning. The audience of parents and governors enjoyed harvest related songs and a fable was enacted at both assemblies. Our

Pre-Prep and Prep school families donated an amazing amount of food items. These were later delivered to the Epsom and Ewell Foodbank who were delighted to receive such a generous amount of donations.

Mrs S Fowler

PREP NETBALL 2019

U8

The U8 teams have come such a long way since September. Most of the girls had never seen a full game and now they are playing it. They have learnt how to send and receive within a game, they are beginning to apply pressure to the opponent, their shooting is improving, and they are starting to use the space. They are also showing knowledge and understanding of the rules and positions. The girls are so enthusiastic; it is so lovely to see them grow as players.

During their fixture against other schools, they have had some great results. Winning 4-1 against Weston Green, 3-0 against Aberdour and drawing 1-1 against Chinthurst. A special mention to Eimear, Rose, Emilia for being the standout players of the term.

U9

The U9 teams are really starting to secure their knowledge of the game. Their physical ability is improving with lots of fast feet, very good shooting, defending and pass and move skills. Their sportsmanship especially towards each other has certainly improved and they are growing into very good netball players.

This term they won a few games within the Aberdour Tournament. They showed some excellent

sportsmanship during a Saturdays Rowan tournament with two wins. They won 3-1 against Aberdour and draw 3-3 to Chinthurst later in the season. Thank you to a number of U8 girls that have stepped up to play for the U9 teams. A special mention to Chloe for her superb attacking skills.

U10

The U10 girls are going from strength to strength with a number of very able players playing for the U11 team at times. Their marking and defensive skills are improving, so is their ability to get free to receive the ball. Their decision making and communication skills are developing nicely.

They played well in a number of fixtures, including a 5-2 win at Rowan and a 6-2 win against Chinthurst. A special mention to Eirin and Adrienne for their excellent game play.

U11

The U11 team show such enthusiasm and drive for the game. They have really enjoyed trying different positions within the game this term especially at the Aberdour versatility tournament and house matches.

The U11 teams had some great results with a silver medal at the Aberdour Versatility tournament. Winning a 5-2 at Rowan, 2-1, 2-1 win at the Banstead/Aberdour triangular. They drew 8-8 away at Chinthurst. A



special mention to Franchessa, Yazy and Sarah for their excellent game play.

Well done to all the girls for a successful and enjoyable term of netball, showing excellent resilience come freezing cold rain or blinding sunshine.

Mrs C Cope



PREP FOOTBALL 2019

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. There were many highlights during the season most notably some superb goals from Harshan Anandakumar, Felipe Bull and Benjamin Bates and some good saves from Finnian Brown in goal. Fixtures with other schools were competitive yet were played with good sportsmanship. The season started off with some keenly contested games at the Aberdour Festival. This was followed by some exciting games with Homefield and Weston Green. Then came the Surbiton High Tournament in which the boys finished as plate winners. All were very excited with their medal and the plate is now resting nicely on the mantle piece. The season finale was at home against Chinthurst School in which Bella and Imogen made their debut for the team. Well done to all that participated – a really enjoyable 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. The 'A' team were unlucky throughout with results just not going their way despite staying committed to the end. The 'B' however remained

undefeated throughout the season only drawing one of their games – a tremendously exciting 2-2 draw with Surbiton. This really does show the strength in depth of this year group. Throughout, the boys developed into close-knit groups and displayed some excellent interplay and teamwork on the field of play. Special mention must go to Avinash Shanmugam for his all action play and William Owen for his adaptability through the season. Well done to all that played.

U10s

The U10s came up against some strong opposition this season and despite some committed, energetic displays the results didn't really go the way of Ewell. However, the camaraderie was evident throughout and I look forward to further progression next year. The highlight of the season were some strong performances again Surbiton High with Ewell gaining the upper hand in two out of the three games. Special mention must go to both Benjamin Nikolov and Jaques Fourie for their solid performances at the back and in midfield and to Dhylan Patel for his goalkeeping throughout the season – all three pupils represented the U11 team at some stage in the season.

U11s

In a strong year group, competition for places was high and thus there were plenty of selection dilemmas throughout the season! The boys had a thumping start to the season with



convincing performances against Micklefield – here the 'A' team were unlucky to play out a 2-2 draw. Following wins against Weston Green School, Ewell then took part in the Surbiton High tournament. After wins against Newland House and Sussex House, Ewell then came up against a strong Hampton Prep team losing 4-0. The team then bounced back with a thumping 3-0 victory against Chinthurst and rounded off the season with a defeat against Surbiton High and a tightly fought draw against Oakwood. I was really pleased with the development shown by all the boys who clearly enjoy their football. Mention here to Harry Reid for his goal scoring exploits, Araham Anadakumar for his strong committed defending and to Flynn Edmonds and Aaryan Patel for their enthusiasm and all action approach in both training and the matches. Well done to all.

Mr N Andrade



PREP SCHOOL ART



Samantha Rosler - Year 4



Samantha Foxcroft - Year 5



Amy Holding - Year 6



Marco Savastano - Year 4



Da'in Dada - Year 5



Charlotte Fyfe - Year 6



Arahan Anadakumar - Year 6



Thomas Cai-Guilloux - Year 5



Matthew Taylor - Year 6



Neve Gardner - Year 6



Minho Lee - Year 5



Yazyzy Fowler - Year 6



FOREST SCHOOL

Forest School arrived at Ewell Castle Preparatory School last year for our Reception children. The sessions have now been rolled out to all the classes from Nursery to Year 3, with the children enjoying weekly sessions in the various Forest School sites around the School grounds. These child-driven sessions offer children a very

different and special experience. It gives them the opportunity to explore and to climb, to swing and to balance, to jump and to stretch, building strong bodies and confident, resilient and independent thinkers. But, for the children, it is simply tremendous fun, and the sound of their happy laughter is now a regular feature of life at the Nursery, Pre-Prep and Prep School.

PREP SCHOOL PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION - THE BALLOON DEBATE

The end of the Autumn Term saw the inaugural Ewell Castle Prep School Public Speaking Competition open to children in Years 5 and 6. The children were asked to write and deliver a persuasive two-minute speech in role as a historical figure of their choosing; their mission was to persuade their audience that they should not be thrown from a sinking hot air balloon! We were astounded at the confidence and clarity of all eighteen of the participants and particularly our winners: 'Thomas Edison' and 'Leonardo Da Vinci'. The

competition will run three times a year so we hope to have even more participants in the spring.

Miss K Garrod



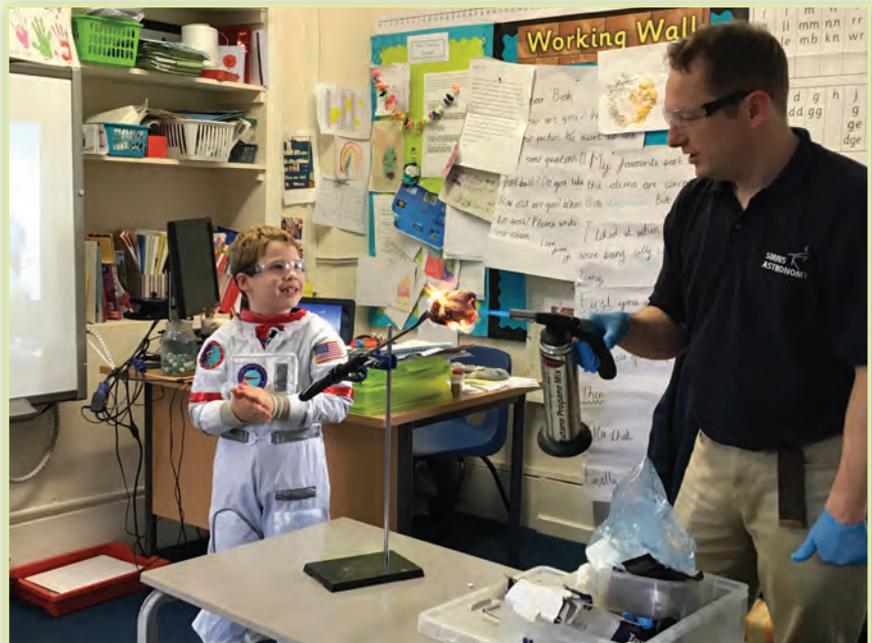
NATIONAL CHAMPIONS: SQUASH AND GYMNASTICS



YEAR 1 SPACE WOW DAY

To inspire and engage the children in our Space topic, Year 1 held a Space Wow Day on 19th November. A whole day workshop was booked for the children and delivered by Sirius Astronomy. The day started in a whirl of excitement with all the children coming into school dressed in Space themed costumes. We had aliens, astronauts, planet and star costumes!

Paul, from Sirius Astronomy, let the children help him create amazing bangs and flames to show what happens to a space rocket as it blasts into space and also, when it re-enters the atmosphere. The looks on the faces of the children were of pure enthrallment. The children also designed and tested 'egg-ships' to see if the designs could withstand falling onto the ground from a great height. Some designs were more successful than others were and we did have a few splattered eggs! This task was to help the children to understand how robust real capsules must be when they land back on Earth. Another highlight of the day was trying on a real space suit that had been into space! The children also learnt about moon rocks and planets and had the chance to examine genuine moon rock and meteor rocks. We had to be very careful, as these were very special, rare rocks. It was really good to hear the children ask Paul a range of interesting questions about space and how they listened with



such interest to Paul's answers and knowledge. A wonderful day was had by all and the children learnt a great

deal from this immersive workshop and our Year 1 Space WOW Day.

Mrs L Patel



FESTIVAL CHOIR

The Prep School Festival Choir led by Mr Fairhead performed at The Ashely Centre in Epsom on the 2nd December. They entertained shoppers and performed Carols with arrangements by Bob Chilcott and Al Estrange Music.

NURSERY AND RECEPTION NATIVITY

The Nursery and Reception children performed a 'Wriggly Nativity' to their parents on Thursday 5th December 2019. They sang and performed beautifully, and there wasn't a dry eye in the room. Here are some of the things the children said about their experience; 'I was a shepherd and watched sheep', 'I liked being the Angel', 'I liked being the inn keeper it was exciting!' 'I liked singing loud', 'I liked the songs and I was Joseph'.

Thank you to all the parents, grandparents and Governors who came to see it. We could not do it without you.

Mrs C Leeds



YEARS 1 AND 2 CHRISTMAS SHOW



Moving to their new performance space of Glyn House hall, the pupils in Years 1 and 2 entertained their parents and the governors with their retelling of the Christmas story. The dad of the family was shocked that his children did not understand the real meaning of Christmas. They had Father Christmas on a donkey and the shepherds riding camels! He decided to share his favourite book and with a little help from the children, he talked through the birth of Jesus, complete with the shepherds, a sparkling throng of angels, three kings with their camels and pages, the helpful innkeepers, and of course the shining star to lead the way.

A huge well done to the whole cast for performing with confidence and singing with great gusto.

Mrs S Fowler



PTA AUTUMN TERM ACTIVITIES

WOW! - What a busy term it has been for the PTA with three events squeezed in along with a number of New2u Pop Up Shops! First, however I would like to thank the 150+ volunteers that have given their time in one form or another to help at our events - we could not have done it without you!

The term began with our annual Fireworks and BBQ Event, which had a record number of people attending. The weather just held and lots of fun was had with all the games and refreshments on offer! Ms Bradshaw and Mrs Fowler had a particular tough time judging the fancy dress and pumpkin carving competition - with so many fantastic entries. Pyromania fireworks once again did not disappoint and we were given an amazing display!

November saw our inaugural 'Bingo and Bubbles Night', which was a great community event. Lots of bottles of bubbles were drunk and many boxes of chocolate were won. Huge thanks to Aisha for the home made nibbles and Mr Essenhigh.

As the the term and year drew to a close we held our annual Christmas Fair which is our biggest event of the year supported by 90+ young people, staff and parents alike. We had a number of firsts; with 'Buzz' welcoming everyone, a Father Christmas experience, community carols and the launch of 'Elfridges&Co'. The Christmas Fair is our largest and busiest event of the year and the planning for it starts back in September; from obtaining prizes for the raffle, selling tickets, distributing tokens, organising games and sourcing prizes, to setting up and dressing the grotto, organising refreshments to promoting and branding 'Elfridges' - many meetings were held, wrapping done, lots of local companies approached. There are many moving parts of the jigsaw that need to come together - it is fantastic to see everyone on the

committee and the whole School community working together.

Due to the amazing efforts, time and donations of so many people this term alone we have raised a formidable £8,500 for value add items to benefit all the pupils. This term we have purchased a new workbench for the Prep School DT Department and additional outside benches and tables for the Senior School. Further spending discussions are planned with the Senior Leadership Team early next term.

Our next event is on the 21st March 2020, when Comedy & Curry night returns to the Castle, in addition, registration to the 100 club is still open until the 3rd week of January 2020.

I would finally like to say a huge personal thank you to the PTA committee - Aisha, Amanda, Clare, Clodagh, Jess, Katrina, Marcela, Mike and Natasha for their amazing



dedication, to the New2U team Catherine, Charlotte and Desiree, and for everyone who has supported us during the year. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a very prosperous 2020!

Emma Mitchell
Chair PTA

YEARS 3-6 CAROL CONCERT

