

January 2018 No. 16

# Abingdon Prep News



## Bushcraft with Y6





## From the Headmaster

It seems like only yesterday that I was welcoming parents and pupils into school on my first day of term. Time has flown by and I feel very much a part of the Abingdon Prep community, especially now I know what people are talking about when they mention 'Firestorm' and 'The Bazaar'!

Prep schools are notoriously busy places and Abingdon Prep is certainly one of the busiest I have ever worked in, and that is no bad thing. It simply means that in addition to the high standards of the academic curriculum, the boys get to experience so much more. This term alone has seen residential trips to The Ridgeway for Year 4 and Cornbury Bushcraft for Year 6. As day trips, Year 4 have visited Christ Church in Abingdon, Year 5 the Black Country Museum, Pre-Prep have been to Cogges Farm and Roves Farm, Year 8 to the Natural History Museum in Oxford, along with pantomime trips for several year groups. These visits help make education real and are vital to ensuring the development of a life-long love of learning.

Our other half program continues to thrive with over fifty clubs on offer in the Michaelmas Term. Music, Art and Drama are huge strengths at Abingdon Prep with all boys involved in one way or another. Every boy has represented school in Rugby matches this term. We have some fine sportsmen coming



Meeting Year 4 boys on Craig's first day

up through the younger years and the facilities in place to support them.

Being Headmaster of Abingdon Prep is a very fulfilling role, as I have the pleasure of overseeing and encouraging the growth of each and every child in the school. I hope all my terms here are just as rewarding as this one has been.

**Craig Williams**

## OPEN MORNING



**Tuesday 27 February 9:30am**

Prospective parents are warmly invited to our Open Morning on Tuesday 27 February. Tours start at 9.30am and you will have the opportunity to tour the school with our senior boys and to see us 'at work' on a normal day. Following the tours, the Headmaster will address parents and there will be plenty of opportunity to talk to staff and boys and for the Admissions team to answer any questions you may have.



## We shall remember them

This year pupils and staff joined together at 11am on Friday 10 November to commemorate those who have fought and those who have given their life or limbs in conflicts to help defend our country, democracy, values and way of life. A two-minute silence was observed and the *Last Post* was played by Ruairi in 7A.



This followed an assembly the day before, presented by boys in 5S, in which they told the school about key events from 100 years ago, in 1917. This included some personal stories from their own families which told of relatives who had served in different theatres of operations around the world, including in the armed forces of allies such as France, Italy and India, as well those of Britain. It also included reference to ex-Abingdon pupils who had fought and died at the Battle of Passchendaele, which came to symbolise the horrific conditions and sacrifice encountered on the Western Front during WWI. *Stefan Gerrard*



**Gardening and Eco Club** (Thursdays after school) had a bumper harvest of beets, marrows and squashes this autumn (left). The boys really relish digging their patches down in the garden.

We also took part in the **Royal Society Young People's Book Prize** for the first time this year, with a panel of boys from Years 5-7 looking at the shortlisted science books in summer term, before agreeing a winner this autumn. The boys chose *Home Lab* by Robert Winston (right) - and enough of the other school panels agreed as it went on to win this year's prize.





**Questions for Karen**



We asked new School Secretary, Karen, some quickfire questions:

- Favourite colour? - *Yellow*
- Favourite Christmas song? *Last Christmas by Wham!*
- Crisps or Chocolate? *Chocolate - all day long!*
- Strictly or X-Factor? - *Strictly, of course!*
- Coronation Street or Eastenders? - *Corrie*
- Hot or Cold? - *Hot, Hot, Hot*
- Last holiday destination? *Turkey*
- Tea or Coffee? - *Tea*
- Mini or VW Golf? - *VW Golf*
- Romcom or Musical? - *I love both*



**Open Morning Keynote Talk**

We welcomed Patrick McCubbin back to this year's Open Morning. Patrick left in 2013 and is now one of the Joint Heads of School at Abingdon. Patrick talked fondly of his time here, "Attending Abingdon Prep gave me the opportunity to push myself beyond the school curriculum. To my mind, the most important value of an Abingdon Prep education is the positive, humble attitude that it instils in you."



**The Christmas Bazaar**



**Some assembly highlights:**

Craig brought his beloved Labrador Dizzy to assembly one day. He talked about dog training with kindness, but also how to know when to stop when playing gets too rough - the same for us in our everyday lives and play.

Middle Section's October assembly led by 6S looked at the origins of Halloween and some of its more recent traditions such as apple bobbing.







## Year 4's Ridgeway Walk

Drizzly rain and muddy puddles could not dampen the high spirits as Year 4 set off along the Ridgeway. Carrying a change of clothes, pyjamas and a few edible treats, they took on the challenge of a five mile hike with smiles and camaraderie. Three hours later, with slightly damp feet and clothes, we reached the Court Hill Centre to be replenished with a hot bowl of spaghetti bolognese or fish fingers, followed by a delicious apple crumble. As the evening sun appeared, the boys enjoyed exploring the woods and playing football on the lawns. Board games, a bedtime story and then off to bed - we had a long walk ahead of us!



The following morning we were blessed with blue skies and sunshine. This made the homeward journey manageable and enjoyable. The views were breathtaking and the boys enjoyed a little bit of history along the way. At about 1pm we reached our destination, White Horse Hill, Uffington. I think that we were all relieved to see our friendly bus drivers waiting to take us home. *Trudi Hibberd*



In September, Year 6 went to Cornbury Park for our Bushcraft trip. Having been put into tribes, they had to build shelters that many chose to sleep under that night. The following days saw boys making traps, fresh water swimming, building fires, being taught survival skills and the art of camouflage. There was ample time for stories, riddles and songs around the campfire and games in the woods. The boys loved the freshly made food including beef fajitas, pasta bolognese and a much appreciated full English breakfast on the Friday. All thoroughly enjoyed the trip, despite some poor weather on one of the days.



## Year 6 Bushcraft





## Year 5 visit the Black Country Museum



Year 5 visited this award-winning open air museum near Dudley and explored the huge site with the help of a costumed guide. They visited the mine and exhibits celebrating the industrial past of the area. The period shops and houses showed how people lived in the 1830s. Not least, the boys went back to school where the schoolmaster was very strict indeed! This living history visit is sure to be repeated in years to come.



The morning of the Art and Science trip to Oxford was spent learning about classifying animals, evolution and natural selection. In her talk, Sarah used examples of arthropods and barnacles from the museum's collections, and those feeling brave handled live giant hissing cockroaches. The boys then explored the museum with a worksheet about Darwin, variation and classification.

After lunch, we switched to art. Sherrey talked about the museum building - a real work of art in itself; every pillar has a different nature carving and the ceiling echoes the ribs of a dinosaur skeleton. The boys sketched the museum's features and details of architectural embellishments using different drawing materials and techniques.



## Year 8 at the Natural History Museum





## Year 6 Science Day



Each year, Year 6 has a visit from Science Oxford. Felipe in 6R tells us what the boys did...

"First we had an interesting talk about forces and friction and how they affect objects. Next we had the tricky challenge of 'The Egg Drop.' We had to build contraptions so the egg didn't crack or break after falling a few metres. A few groups managed to keep their egg intact, but others weren't so lucky.

"We spent the afternoon building cars made of K'NEX. We had electric and wind-up motors to power them and three challenges. The first one was whose car went the furthest. The second was a race. Everyone lined up their car at the front of the hall then turned on their motors; the first one to get to the finish line was the winner. The third challenge was to get your car into a square made of duct tape - only wind-up motors were allowed in this competition.

"In conclusion, all of Year 6 liked the activities and competitions. They loved Science Day and wanted to have other days like this."



### Class Pairings and House Meetings offer regular opportunities for team-building between boys of different ages.



Y7 and Y3



Y5 and Y1



House ping-pong cups game

## School Council 2017-8



This term we have been very busy with the new 'Think Tank', a tank-shaped suggestion box designed by Harvey and Adam in Year 8. Every week, the School Council has met to sort out the first set of ideas to present to Craig. Most of the suggestions were to do with the playground, lessons/curriculum, food/lunches, and miscellaneous ones such as softer/better toilet paper. We presented our ideas in a breakfast meeting with Craig. This involved pains au chocolat and orange juice which was much appreciated. Craig went through the ideas and some were definitely possible, others were being looked into and some were not suitable for various reasons such as health and safety. We felt it was a very successful meeting and hope to see some changes after Christmas.

Another aspect with which School Council was involved with was Anti-Bullying Week. We came up with suggestions of what to do if you are being bullied or if you are a bystander. We will be organising a competition after Christmas to design posters for classrooms. *Clem and Patrick*



## Public Speaking and Debating Competitions



The Judges

In the Middle Section Public Speaking competition, pupils were invited to give a five minute speech with the title "Has 2017 been a good year?" Well done to Tommy from 6S.

The Senior Section competition comprised two debates, one on the legal status of gambling and another on the relative merits of football and rugby. Congratulations go to winner Alex from 7A, who proposed that all forms of gambling



should remain legal.

Many thanks go to Jon Gabbitas, former Governor and long-time friend of the School, Glynn Butt, current Abingdon Foundation Governor, and Jonah Walker, an Abingdon Prep Old Boy and currently an undergraduate at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, for giving up their afternoons to form the judging panel for the competitions. *Rob Shaw.*

## Autumn Performing and Creative Arts Colours

**MUSIC - Senior half:** Ruairidh, Foon Foon, Finnian, Harvey. **Junior half:** William.



## Warhammer Schools League

Our team acquitted themselves well against older Y11 boys in the local heat. They'll get a second chance to reach the semis soon.



Firestorm Spectacular

The weather was perfect for our annual Firestorm evening's entertainments. Events started off school-side with our traditional hog roast and other stalls. The children had time to let off steam on the playground with their light sabres. This was Headmaster Craig's first experience of this annual event and he found it astounding seeing the glowing colours charging about in the near darkness.

Then we moved over to the sports field for the fireworks display. Parent pyrotechnician Paul Wentworth and his team treated us to some flaming cyclists as a warm-up to the Battle of the Houses. The four huge flaming metal effigies of the Dragon, Griffin, Phoenix and Unicorn (right, after the event), shot fireworks at each other and spouted flames to the delighted cheers of the boys. This was followed by the whizzes, fizzes and bangs of the firework display to bring the evening to a close.

It takes a lot of people to make this event such a success, all the JPA volunteers and school staff who helped, but particularly Paul and his team for the fireworks. This will be Paul's last for the school after several years of spectacular displays. Thank you.



Y4 visit Christ Church

Year 4 visited Christ Church, Abingdon to support our RE topic learning about features and events that happen in Christian churches. We were met by the children's minister who explained what people do in church through a really fun memory pairs game. Next we learnt about holy communion and the boys got to experience what happens during the service. We thought about how, why and what we remember during communion through the use of different sweets! We then read through a baby christening service and chose some godparents from the boys who took their responsibilities very maturely which was fascinating. The boys managed to work out what special features the church had through some good investigation skills as they explored the church after a local expert talked about its unusual building. It was interesting to find out the wider history of the church in Abingdon too, such as the role of the Abbey. The boys behaved exceptionally well throughout, asking sensible and interesting questions. *Pip Usher*





## Carol Concert

Snow forced the postponement of our carol concert at St Helen's church, but we were able to reschedule a slightly shorter version for the end of term assembly. While we were disappointed that there was no room for parents to see the boys perform this Christmas programme, we hope to post filmed highlights on the school website.

*Once in Royal* opened proceedings and soloist Tom sang with a beautiful tone. Then a wide range of different musical styles was celebrated, from Year 3 and 4's Maori song *Te Harinui* and Junior Choir's *Twilight* by Jo McNally, to Jazz Band combining a carol with 007 in Simon Currie's arrangement *God Rest You Merry Bond!* Year 5 and 6 also entertained with kazoos in the chorus of *Christmas on the Beach at Waikiki*. Senior choir performed a beautiful song, *Sirius*, by Robert Legg (who judged the House Music Competition last year). Years 7 and 8 gave a spirited rendition of *Jingle Bells* in French (*Vive le vent*) with Lynne conducting; Sacha and Will were soloists in their next song, *That's Christmas to Me*. Orchestra played Slade's perennial classic, *Merry Christmas Everybody*. We are very lucky that Director of Music, Debbie Rose is a talented composer, and several different groups sang songs she had written.

In between the music, boys from Years 3-8 read Christmas poems and texts. Headmaster Craig read from John 1, and Reverend Paul Gooding from Abingdon School both opened the concert and gave the final blessing. Thank you to Debbie, Bethan, Helen, Jamie, Lenka, Paul and Rachel and all who made the rescheduled concert such a success.



## Concert Platform

20 pupils from Years 2-8 performed in our November Concert Platform's rich and varied programme. William played *My Girl* on bass ukulele, accompanied by Debbie, Daniel played *Une Larme* by Rossini on double bass, and Josef a fast and furious jazz scale study *Return Flight* on saxophone. There was singing too, with Charlie performing *Home on the Range* and Rupert's *Camptown Races*. It was lovely to see the boys enjoying their music and receiving their applause with pride.





## Young Art Leaders



Our Young Art Leaders are in great demand for their artistic skills in their support sessions with lunch club artists. They helped Y5-6 boys (above) make beautiful marbled ink covers for their hand-bound books. Y3-4 (below) created imaginary superheroes from 'evil peas' to 'super squids'!



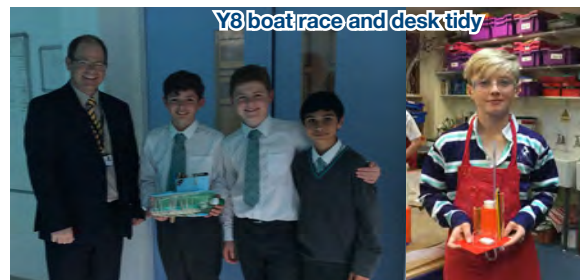
The Big Draw is hosted by Arts Council England. This year the theme was 'Living Lines'. Pupils, staff and parents decorated luggage tags with line drawings.



Y4 Shonibare-inspired designs



Y7 jitterpens and desk fans



Y8 boat race and desk tidy



Y3 seaside mirrors, kaleidoscopes and wooden pencil pots



Y4 light-up pictures and Christmas wall hangings (centre and above right)



Y5 juggle boxes and buzzer games



Y6 jigsaws on the fretsaw and pencil holders



## September

Reception have had their first taste of life at Abingdon Pre-Prep. There was plenty for our youngest pupils to do indoors and out. From art and dressing up to checking out the stock of cars and dinosaur models in the outdoor play area. It was a busy and fun first morning for everyone.



Reception's First Day



## A Visit from Blue Watch

### Get Out! Get the Fire Brigade Out! Stay Out!

As part of our Safety Week focus Pre-Prep enjoyed a visit from the Red Watch at Abingdon Fire Station. The emphasis of the visit was keeping safe, what to do in an emergency and also to give us a tour around the fire engine. We learnt all about the equipment stored on board and how it might be used when they are called to an incident. Reception even experimented with the hose and all had a go at spraying water at a cone to chase it along the playground, which according to Reception was "the best thing ever!"



Y2 made apple scones. They also enjoy K'NEXions Club.

## October



Harvest Festival

like the scarecrows in their song, to lively verses about conkers and the big red combine harvester. Year 1 devised a poem around their artwork and Year 2 performed a piece of music that they had composed themselves to conjure up the sounds of autumn!



Harvest is an important time for Pre-Prep, marking the transition from summer to autumn and a wonderful celebration of the world around us. In our traditional Harvest Festival, the boys brought gifts of food to the harvest table. Anne Parker, our Charities Coordinator, explained how these donations would be given to The Gatehouse, which provides meals for the homeless in Oxford. We were also joined by Rob Finch, the Youth Worker from the Marcham Parish who shared the importance of giving and kindness and how important they were - food for thought!

The children sang and shared songs and poems, from Reception dressed in floppy-floppy hats just



Smile Please!

As part of Reception's 'Marvellous Me' topic, we learnt about things we can do to keep our bodies in tip-top shape. Rupal came in to tell us all about her job as a dentist and how she can help us to look after our teeth, and she very kindly gave us all a new toothbrush.





# October

Reception's first school visit was to Cogges Farm Museum, where the boys baked bread, ground corn, planted seeds and re-told the story of the *Little Red Hen*. They met the farm animals too. Later, the rickety bridge took us into the woods, and the adventure playground was fun. Some very happy and tired little boys made their way home that day!



# November

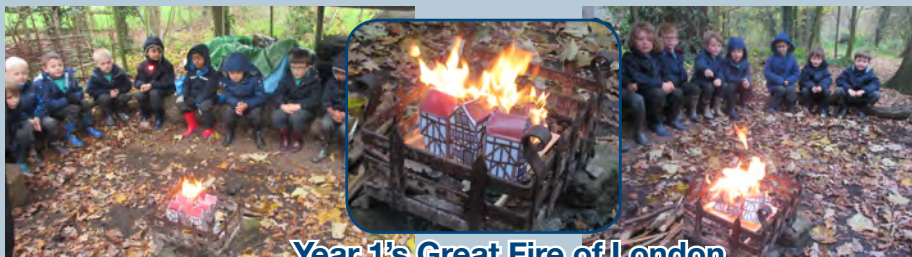
## Diwali

Reception celebrated Diwali, the Hindu festival of light. Rupal came to share the highlights of Diwali in her household. Everyone helped to hold the sari as the fabric was wrapped around and around Elaine. Then we tried a selection of Indian food whilst we listened to traditional music.



## Vision Screening

Reception had their vision screening tests. They really enjoyed trying out the funky glasses!





# November



Drama Workshops



PE with Reception



# December The Pre-Prep Nativity - A Miracle in Town



Pre-Prep performed A Miracle in Town, a traditional Nativity play, for parents and friends to enjoy. The event began with the sheep and donkeys from Reception processing into the darkened room with sparkling lanterns, smiling brightly as they climbed onto the stage to take their places. We were taken on a fabulous journey by two young storytellers, who introduced us to Mary and Joseph and talked of their tiring journey to Bethlehem. A very determined Inn Keeper finally allowed the couple to rest with their donkey in a stable. A choir of Year 1 angels lit up the sky and an array of animals filled the stable as the story unfolded with a selection of catchy and exciting songs. After a long journey the shepherds arrived with a warm blanket and lambs for the baby. They were closely followed by the Wise men and some very bossy camels! What an incredibly busy night, that really was A Miracle in Town.





# December



# Roves Farm

Following a wonderful performance of the Christmas story by the boys in Pre-Prep, we set off to Roves Farm to find out about the story from the donkey's point of view. Excitement ran high as the adults became the audience for the story in a real stable with, of course, live animals. What a wonderful tale told by a host of animals, with the boys dressed as shepherds, wise men and angels, offering gifts and beautiful, angelic dances. Mary and Joseph were played by two boys in Reception who took a real donkey on a journey to the chilly stable where Jesus soon joined them.



We met the elf in the workshop, who told us about all of the toys he was making. Of course the best thing of all was a visit to Father Christmas in his sleigh with promises of being very, very good being exchanged for wishes for globes and Star Wars Lego. We also did Christmas crafts, visited pets' corner, the huge adventure playground and had our picnic. What a smashing day!

We would thank the JPA for supporting us with this event. *Linda Gaskell.*

# Christmas Storytelling in the Library



# Celebrate!



Christmas lunch



Young Author and former pupil Louis visited Reception to share his book, based around the adventures of his dog, sold in aid of Great Ormond St Hospital.



Fun in the snow!



Happy New Year from Pre-Prep



# AbingdonPrep Sport



Our biathlon medalists

## Off the rugby field...

**Biathlon:** Thirteen boys from four age groups competed in the **Abingdon Vale Biathlon Time Trial** at Abingdon Sports Centre (swimming) and Tilsley Park (running). Out of the twelve Abingdon Prep competitors, six finished in the top 3. A tremendous achievement indeed. In the U12 category, Quinn, Freddie and Angus completed a one-two-three (out of 11 competitors). In the U13 category, Johnny finished 2nd and Christopher 3rd. James was the leading performer in the U11s finishing 5th out of 17 competitors. In the U10s, Sam excelled himself finishing 2nd in his first biathlon, recording the fastest time of the day in his category for his 800m run.

**Cross-Country:** Our U9, U10 and U11 cross-country teams competed against twelve other schools at **Cokethorpe's** meeting, achieving collective and individual success. The U9 team all ran well with Zachary 7th, Nathan 12th and Isaac 14th. The U10A team enjoyed considerable success coming 2nd overall in the team competition, Sam was 3rd and Josca 7th. The U11A team missed 1st place by just one place to the Dragon School. Out of over 90 runners, Mikey came 4th and Finn 9th.

**Fencing:** Five boys took part in the Bucks, Berks and Oxon County Age Group Foil competition at Moulsoford School. Oliver, Edward and Gabriele competed in the U10 section and Dilan and Edward in the U12 section. They all fenced extremely well with Edward winning a bronze medal and Gabriele the gold in the U10 competition.

**Hockey:** Now we have the MUSA, our after school hockey club led by Craig has really taken off, playing whatever the weather (nearly!).



Hockey Club



Cross-Country at Cokethorpe

## Rugby Sports Colours

**Senior Full Colours:** Alex, Christopher, Henry

**Senior Half Colours:** Amar, Archie, Billy, Daniel, Dylan, George, Jasper, Leo, Ludo, Oliver, Takumi, Xander,.

**Junior Full Colours:** Angus, Finn, James, Mikey, Nathaniel, Ollie, William.

**Junior Half Colours:** Alex, Archie, Archie, Fintan, Freddie, Iestyn, Josca, Jude, Luke, Ned, Sam, Tom, Xavier. .

## House Rugby

Year 3 (U8)	Phoenix & Unicorn (Paul & Ted)
Year 4 (U9)	Phoenix (Oliver)
Year 5 (U10)	Dragon (Archie)
Year 6 (U11)	Phoenix (Angus)
Year 7 & 8 B	Dragon (Archie)
Year 7 & 8 A	Dragon (Amar)



BB&O County Foil Fencing Competition

## Autumn Term Rugby Awards

This term we celebrate rugby endeavour. The 'Most Outstanding Player' comes from the 1st XI of each year. The 'Most Improved Player' can come from any team in each age group. The new 'Man of Steel' awards celebrate individual achievements.

Team	Improved	Outstanding	Man of Steel
Under 8s	Zayaan	Paul	
Under 9s	Oscar	Zachary	Oliver
Under 10s	Philip	Ollie	
Under 11s	Deniz	Angus	
Under 12s	Foon Foon	Oliver	
Under 13s	Charlie	Christopher	Henry



## Rugby Review

In early September, our **U13As** enjoyed an early season run out at the **Dragon School Rugby Festival**. This proved an excellent opportunity to experiment with the line-up and identify key areas to be worked on over the term. Playing against much larger schools, our boys acquitted themselves well and improved as the festival progressed. Later that month, the squad showed an improvement in their performance at the annual **St Hugh's U13A Super 12s Rugby Festival**. Losses against Pinewood and a very good Cheltenham College Prep side contrasted with very determined performances resulting in victory against Wycliffe College and Winchester House. In November, sixteen Prep schools from Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Oxfordshire and Avon competed in the **37th annual Pinewood Sevens Festival** in a waterfall format. Abingdon Prep School was in Group A along with Dean Close, The Downs (Wraxall), Barbarians, Beaudesert, Prior Park and Ashfold. The overall winners were The Downs (Wraxall) who beat The Downs (Malvern) in the final. The U13 A VII Squad, captained by Henry were a credit to themselves and our school, well done to all the boys who competed.

Later in November, we hosted the 7th annual **Abingdon Prep Under 13 Rugby Sevens Tournament**. Several schools took part, including: Pitsford, Cothill House, Christ Church Cathedral School and Beachborough, as well as our own A and B VII. The festival was run in a round-robin format. Despite being beaten in all of their matches, the APS Bs grew in confidence and showed greater character as the competition progressed. The APS As won their first match convincingly against the APS Bs by 56 - 0 and went in to their next match with renewed confidence. However two narrow defeats followed against Pitsford and Beachborough. A narrow victory against Christ Church Cathedral School and a loss against Cothill, which could have gone either way, completed the competition. The APS A team's handling was incredible all afternoon as they retained possession for long periods of time. They were the best team to watch! Both teams showed great character during the event.

Our **U11** teams had a mixed season, but our A-C teams all won as many, or more matches than they lost. The U11Ds pulled a victory out of the bag against MCS in their last match, as did the U11Cs against Cheltenham, to end the term on a high note.

The **U10A** team took part in the the **Magdalen College School Under 10 Rugby Festival**. Abingdon Prep got stronger as the afternoon continued. After losing their first tie, they went on to win all three of their following matches. They all played with great heart and determination and as a team have a great deal of potential. A special thanks to all of the parents on the side-line for their support. The U10As had a good season, winning half of their ten fixtures, drawing two, and earning Roger the 'Coach of the Term' award!

Our **U9** teams enjoyed their first competitive 'transitional contact' match vs St Hugh's in September. Despite losing the three matches, the fixture highlighted our boys' ability to run and pass effectively. By late November, their tackling had improved and the Year 4s played a highly competitive afternoon of house matches with Phoenix triumphing to take the cup.

The **U8s** had a very enjoyable and successful tag rugby season with the As unbeaten in their three matches. All Year 3s thoroughly enjoyed their first experience of competitive rugby.



U13 v The Oratory



U9s House Rugby



U10 team talk v Chandlings



U10s at MCS Festival



## Anti-Bullying Week

5L led an assembly (below), and many boys took part in workshop sessions. (left).



Carpet Time with 3J



# AbingdonPrep Charities, JPA and Farewells

## Charities



This year our school charity is **Springfield School**. It is a local school and educates children and young people with severe learning difficulties and communication problems, with a strong belief in the benefits of integration and inclusion to all.

We have had a successful fundraising term, starting with our Home Clothes day. The theme this year was 'Bright and Bold', resulting in a variety of fluorescent clothing and hair on display.



Then, having spent half term collecting together silver coins and old £1 coins, the boys covered Springfield school's badge. Finally, for a small donation, boys were allowed to wear their Christmas jumpers for the Christmas lunch. *Anne Parker.*



## Fond Farewells

### Sallie Swain

Sallie looked after all of us in so many ways. From first aid provision and lost property detection to bus organisation and considerate confidante, Sallie undertook multiple roles in the office. With a ready smile for all, she was very much the face and heart of the school who involved herself fully in all that we did. Dressed as a bear for book day and decking her office out as 'BetSal' (right) for our horse themed day, Sallie entered into the spirit of wider school life. Our loss is Radley College's gain, and we wish Sallie all the best in her new role in their Admissions Office.

Jo, Clare and Sallie



### Lynda Smith

Lynda leaves us after several years as a TA in Pre-Prep. Her sunny outlook and ever-smiling face will be greatly missed by both our younger pupils and those in After School Club. Lynda leaves us to take up a full-time TA role at her daughter's school closer to home. We send our very best wishes for the future there.

## JPA News

Thank you to everyone for their support of Firestorm and the Christmas Bazaar. We had two wonderful events and raised a lot of money which will be split between school projects and our charities. Looking forward to next year already!

We have launched a new event for Christmas 2018 which is Gifts For Grownups (G4G). Please see the recent school mailing. Work on this needs to start now and will continue all year.

Events coming up are: Quiz Night on Friday 26 January, the Summer Ball on Saturday 23 June (tickets on sale in Jan), and Scalextrics night on Friday 9 March.

With thanks from the JPA Committee

AbingdonPrep News is the newsletter of Abingdon Preparatory School, Josca's House, Kingston Road, Oxford OX13 5NX Tel: 01865 391570 www.abingdon.org.uk/prep Editor: Annabel Gaskell

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