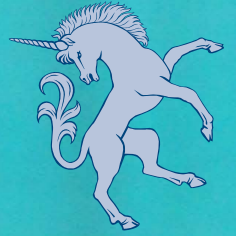


Abingdon Prep News



From the Headmaster

Dear Reader

I have now completed my first year here at Abingdon Prep and the time has simply flown by. It has been a thoroughly enjoyable time getting to know the school and most importantly the boys. It never ceases to amaze me just how busy our boys are at school, and indeed during the holidays! As the photographs and reports testify to, it has been a hectic Summer Term with so many exciting events taking place. Some of my highlights this term have been our Art and CDT exhibition for Oxfordshire Artweeks and boy's work on show for Young Art Oxford at the Ashmolean Museum, the Year 5 Soirée, a brilliant Sports Day over at Tilsley Park and Pre-Prep Sports Day on Cox's Field, Grandparents' afternoon, and the superb Summer Concert at the end of term.

Cricket, Tennis and Athletics have taken centre stage on the games fields and we are very

proud to have the U11 Prep Schools National High Jump Champion, the U13 Long Jump Champion and the Runner Up in the U13 1500 metres amongst our pupils. Numerous boys also qualified for the IAPS National Swimming finals and National Biathlon finals too, as well as having the U13 IAPS Table Tennis Champion. Amazing results for a school of our size.



I would like to thank our Year 8s for all their hard work both in and out of the classroom this academic year and I wish them all the best as they move on to pastures new. They leave Abingdon Prep as well-rounded young men who have much to offer their new schools having attained extremely strong Common Entrance grades to complement the 13+ scholarships which we achieved in the Spring Term.

I hope you had a fabulous summer break and are looking forward to the new school year.

Craig Williams



Wellbeing Club

Abingdon Preparatory School

Ask about our transfer process to Abingdon School

Abingdon Prep
Open Morning
Saturday 6 October 10am-12pm
abingdon.org.uk/prep 01865 391570

“Exceptional – pupils’ achievement both inside and outside the classroom.”
ISI Inspection



Head for the day...

Left: One of the Christmas Bazaar raffle prizes was the opportunity for to be 'Head for the Day' and Josef in Year 8 won. He began his day by co-hosting assembly with Craig and handing out certificates. Afterwards, Josef and Craig toured the school, joining staff for coffee at breaktime.

Right: Craig hosted a visit by former headmaster Chris Davies and his wife. Chris, and Jane who taught RE, moved schools in 2010. Many staff still remain from their time at the school, and it was a delight for all to see each other again.

...and a former Head visits



Grandparents' Tea



In June, over 120 grandparents arrived to enjoy an afternoon at Abingdon Prep with their grandsons. The visitors met their grandsons in their classrooms where they were keen to share the lovely work they have done this year and special pieces they were really proud of. The visitors were given a guided tour of the school by their grandsons which ended in the main hall where a delicious cream tea awaited them. As they tucked into tea they were entertained with music and poetry recitals from the boys. The afternoon was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all. *Louise Batho*



Table Tennis Club

made the most of the sunshine with an al fresco session after school one Friday. Thankfully it was a still afternoon so the wind didn't affect play.

The Life Education Bus

visited APS to run sessions with boys from Reception to Year 6. The aim is to encourage boys to be aware of their bodies, how they work and what can affect them. It gives boys opportunities to reflect on their lifestyle choices and to develop strategies for dealing with issues such as feelings, friendships, risk taking and consequences. The sessions are age appropriate and a wide range of health related issues



are explored: from hygiene and healthy eating in the lower years, building steadily to include managing emotions and keeping safe, including drug use in the junior age groups.

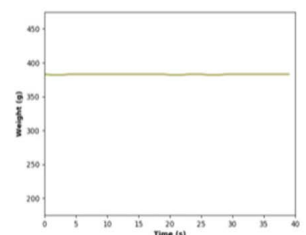
CONGRATULATIONS to Hannah and Craig Williams on the arrival of their first child, Quinn.



Citizen Bird



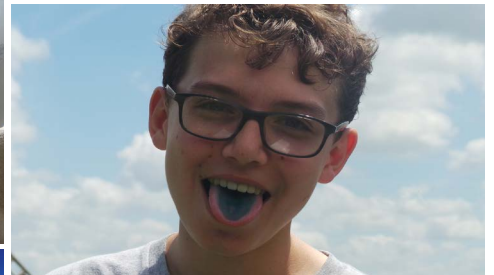
We have some nest boxes in our grounds supplied by William in Y5's father, who is involved with the Citizen Bird project. The electronics inside have enabled us to see into the box and weighing scales record activity, birds coming and going or growing chicks will affect the weight. The school garden box has a Great Tit nest. The eggs hatched and the chicks grew rapidly. We could see them being fed and how they grew. By mid-May they were nearly ready to fledge.



Year 8 en Normandie



Dimanche - We set off full of spirits in the evening for this year's Normandy trip. **Lundi** - Inevitably, the boys' effervescence dissipated when we arrived in France at 5.45am BST! We stopped for a look at Pegasus Bridge before our first visit at the goat farm. Goats were brushed and fed, milking was taught (amid much hilarity) and some were persuaded to drink the milk or get it squirted over them - fun to watch the boys' faces! The afternoon was spent on the beach or in the pool to relax after our early start. **Mardi** - our visit to Mont St Michel started with many stairs via a very narrow walkway - barely wide enough to get through. Then, shopping time. Food was the great attraction, despite having a picnic lunch! The afternoon was spent at Alligator Bay where some of us watched the snakes being fed. A fascinating place. **Mercredi** - saw us at Festyland, the biggest theme park in Normandy, with some ferocious rides. I can't go on them since I am the official photographer - and I am sticking to that! **Jeudi** - brought history about the D-Day landings and the Mulberry Harbour. The visit to the 360 degree cinema was well worth it. The boys then had a chance to relax in an indoor swimming pool with a slide and a jacuzzi. **Vendredi** - We visited a market, the Bayeux tapestry and the Allied War Cemetery before setting off to the port and home. What a great trip! *Lynne Hough*



Y8 relax on the Ridgeway



Y5 at PGL



Year 5 boarded the huge coach that would take them to PGL, Liddington. Once there, they had packed lunches in the sunshine. Being shown their dormitories was very exciting, especially deciding who would be on the top bunks! The afternoon activities included archery and a survival course. These were followed by a delicious tea and another game called 'Passport to the World'. They were exhausted but very exhilarated after their first day.



The second day at PGL was just as much fun. Groups played aero ball, canoed, abseiled and went on the giant swing. On the last day Year 5 tried out some more new activities, the challenge course and the zip wire. After lunch it was time to return to school. Year 5 all loved the trip and would recommend it to everyone!



Year 7 Trips



Whitmead

This term, Year 7 had three trips full of adventure out of doors. First, a residential stay at Whitmead in the Forest of Dean, where zorbing proved popular and team challenges such as raft-building really tested the boys' mettle. A science field trip at Sutton Courtenay Environment Centre followed to learn about habitats and adaptation. Finally, near the end of term, they played Laser Tag and tackled the high ropes obstacle course near Culham.



Laser Tag



Science Field Trip

AbingdonPrep Out & About



Year 3 went to the Ashmolean Museum's Egyptian galleries. They were able to handle ancient artefacts, but most excitingly, they came face to face with an Egyptian mummy! Their Egyptian theme continued in Art (below).



Year 5 visited Portsmouth Historic Dockyard as part of their history study of 'Nelson's Navy'. This involved a tour of HMS Victory, an activity session about life in the Georgian navy and a visit to the Maritime Museum. It was a superb and invaluable experience which the boys will draw on throughout the rest of their study of Nelson.



Y6 visit Central Oxford Mosque

In May, Year 6 visited Central Oxford Mosque. When we arrived there it was definitely bigger than we expected. When we went inside the mosque we were told to take off our shoes. We met the Imam who led us into the prayer room and introduced himself. He told us more about Islam and answered our questions. We also asked the Imam to help us complete our worksheets about the mosque. Next, we watched the Imam perform wudu. Wudu is a process that Muslims perform before praying to make sure they are clean in Allah's presence. You had to wash three times. After the wudu room we went back to the entrance hall, said our goodbyes and went back to School. *Written by Ollie.*



Year 7's Courtroom Drama



Year 7 experienced an intriguing courtroom role play scenario in which Lynne was prosecuted for stealing two bottles of wine worth £100 each!

Parent barrister, John Vater QC, was judge for the afternoon and he and his fellow co-workers led the proceedings.

All 42 Year 7 boys got jobs including: an usher, eight barristers who had to cross-examine each witness and make their own speeches for the prosecution or defence of the defendant, four witnesses and a group of courtroom artists, plus two juries of twelve pupils.

When the juries were sent away to consider their verdicts, they came to two different decisions.

One jury found the defendant to be guilty by a majority verdict of eleven to one, but the other was hung at seven guilty to five innocent, (there must be a majority of ten or more for or against to move to a verdict).

The judge's sentence was confinement to Abingdon Prep until 6 July and then Lynne was free to go. This was a great fun experience for everyone involved, and thank you to the legal team who gave their time to run the event.

4AP's Adverb Poems

Quickly

Quickly the birds dived in the air,
Quickly the rabbits ran back to their lair,
Quickly the runner zoomed along the course,
Quickly the rider got on his horse.

Quickly the fat pig ate up his food,
Quickly the toddler changed his mood,
Quick is the cheetah, but quickest of all
Is the diving peregrine falcon.

Willem

Silently

Silently the ghostly wind passes through
the air,
Silently the morning mist sets on the
windows,
Silently the mice scurry around on their
padded paws,
Silently the deer creeps away into the
bush,
Silently life comes and goes.

Silently the kite soars through the air,
Silently the owl swoops down on its prey,
But most silently of all, time and space
goes by.

Léon

Middle School Creative Writing Competition

In May, we welcomed Mrs Bridgeworth, Head of English, and Mr Jamison, an English teacher as well as an award-winning author, both from Abingdon School as judges of our creative writing competition. We invited pupils to

write on the topic of 'journeys' in 500 words or fewer. Although optional, more than a quarter of the Section entered. Congratulations to winners Tommy in Year 6 and George in Year 5, whose piece appears below.

My Journey by George

Every wave that washes over the boat feels like the end of me. I have no idea how many miles away from Europe we are. None of us do. We are just normal people, wanting to find somewhere safe. I squeeze Ebo tight between my legs. He is whimpering; he is just as scared as I am. No one speaks, we just watch the waves.

I think back to the day the soldiers came, when they took away Papa and my sister Amira. I tried to shout at the men and tell them to give my family back, but Mama covered my mouth. The next day Mama said I had to leave. I felt like I had a stone stuck in my throat. 'Aren't you coming?' I said to her. She said 'No Tariq, there's only enough money for you, you're 11, you've got a longer life ahead of you.' She gave me 100 dollars. 'I've already paid the smugglers, but you will have to buy food and water.'

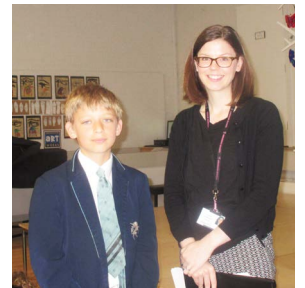
I knew she was probably right but I couldn't bear to leave her. The only thing that persuaded me to leave was seeing the house opposite us explode in a ball of fire. Mama said, on the brink of crying 'I trust you, you can do it. You can get a nice life in Europe.'

Before I wasn't allowed to walk to school by myself, now I was on my own, travelling to Europe. Just Ebo and I on the dusty road. Some men

shouted at me, knowing I would have money. I broke into a run with Ebo next to me all the way to the docks. The smugglers swore at me and told me to get on the boat. As I sat down I noticed a safety label, it read "certified RIB built in 1981 max capacity 10 people". The boat already had 18 people in it and there were more to come. The last person to get on the boat was a lady with a crying baby.

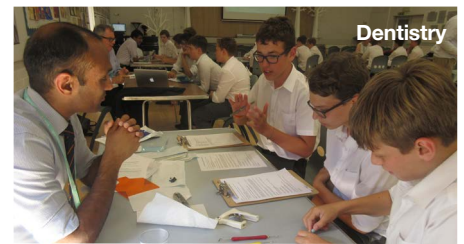
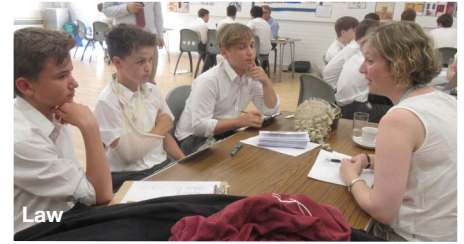
So here I am, in the middle of a Mediterranean swell, fearing for my life. The woman with the baby asks me if I am alright. At least someone cares about me, even when she's got a tiny baby to keep alive.

I see a massive wave looming and it crashes over us, sending us all into a panic. I look around wondering if everyone is alright and I see the mother screaming and pointing at her baby in the ocean. I don't think, I just jump over the side and swim to him. The currents are pulling me all over the place. Ebo jumps in after me and gets to the baby first. He holds the baby up and I grab the baby and swim back. The mother is overjoyed. I am so happy. I feel like something has changed. I am part of a team now with someone I can trust. It gives me hope. I'll get to Europe somehow



Careers Focus

Michael Triff from the Senior School introduced 'Career Thinking' to our Year 8 boys. A week later, with thoughts honed towards thinking of their interests and favourite subjects, they were ready for the next step when our third Careers event got into full swing. A selection of parents made short pitches to the boys about working in: Law, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, Architecture, Property Development, Scientific Research, Journalism, Auctioneering and Public Relations, Marketing and Finance. The boys then had an opportunity to ask questions and explore a range of resources. We all had our eyes opened to the world of work and the path it may take to arrive at our destination. A huge thank you to all the parents who participated. *Linda Gaskell*



Verse Speaking Competition

We were delighted to welcome back Jon Gabitass to judge the competition and offer words of advice on the art of public speaking. The standard was exceptionally high this year, making it difficult to choose overall winners.

However, Nirmat's engaging recital of 'The Night Before the Match' by John Foster earned him the Junior School trophy, while George's outstanding performance of 'St Crispin's Day Speech' from Henry V, impressed the judges so much that he was awarded the Middle School trophy.

Congratulations to all our deserving finalists: Leon, Michael, Nirmat, Dylan, George, Jack, William and Tommy and a special thank you to Jon Gabitass for inspiring the boys and helping to make the afternoon a memorable occasion.





Y4 Greek Masks & Shields

Year 4 explored Greek Art and Architecture in their summer art project. The boys created some beautifully painted battle shields using cardboard and experimenting with relief. After some research into Greek theatre, they each chose either comedy or tragedy to construct a card mask using only glue and scissors to give their mask a personality. They all made some exceptional examples and had a lot of fun modelling them through school.

Sherrey Tysom



The Annual BBQ



How do you model our body's digestive processes? Simply make a bran flake mush, add food colouring for effect and use a length of tights as the intestine. Then squeeze the water out and extrude! Year 4 absolutely loved this gungy but informative science practical lesson!



Instrument Taster Carousel

A large number of our pupils have instrumental or voice lessons at school, given by our team of visiting music staff. From bassoon

to ukulele, clarinet to cello, piano to violin and more, they've got it covered. Each year they host a taster carousel where any boy can try

an instrument to find which appeals the most, and maybe try a session or two before committing to lessons.





The Year 5 Soirée is an annual event in which the boys entertain an audience of their families, who went home hugely impressed having seen the mixture of instrumental performances, singing and drama presented by this talented year group.



House Music Competition Finals

The Instrumentalists



The Vocalists



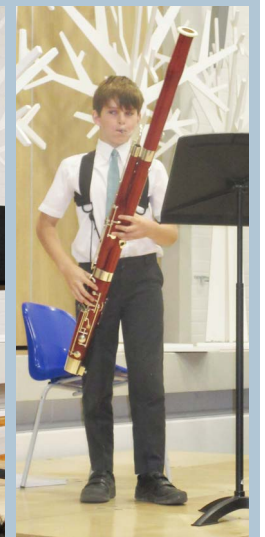
The finals of our annual House Music Competition were split into two events this year - with separate awards for instrumental and singing performances.

We were privileged to have Dr Peter Foster, Director of Music at OLA as our instrumental adjudicator. He talked about overcoming performing nerves and how to take a good bow before giving the finalists feedback. The winner was Josef on saxophone.

Singing is an increasingly popular musical discipline and to recognise this, our house vocalists competed separately for the new Debbie Rose Cup. The competition was adjudicated by Karina, an experienced singer. The inaugural winner of the new Debbie Rose Cup was Rupert.

In both events, the audience were treated to a host of super polished and professional musical performances, with a repertoire covering a wide range of different musical styles.

Thank you and well done to all our finalists.



Summer Concert



The summer concert at a packed Amey Theatre always provides a memorable evening of music old and new, performed by instrumental ensembles, choirs and soloists from Years 3 to 8.



Orchestra played first, contrasting Snow Patrol's *Run* with Bizet's *Carmen*. Junior Choir followed singing *Ordinary Miracle* by Ballard and Stewart. Wind Band played a *Galliarde* by Gervaise. Y3 and Y4 sang *Banuwa*, an African round, and *Cape Cod Chanty*, an arrangement of a traditional song, complete with actions. Chamber Choir sang Goodall's version of *The Lord is My Shepherd (The Vicar of Dibley)* with Tom as soloist. Debbie played along on saxophone with Jazz Band's *Mercy, Mercy, Mercy*. Y5 and Y6 brought the first half to a close with a medley from *Pocahontas* by Schwartz and Menken.

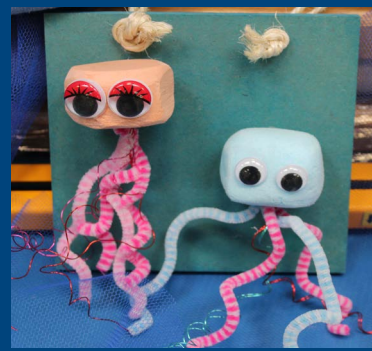
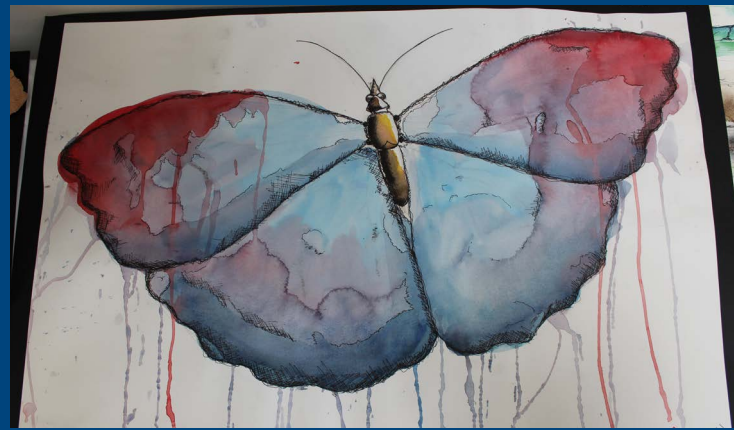


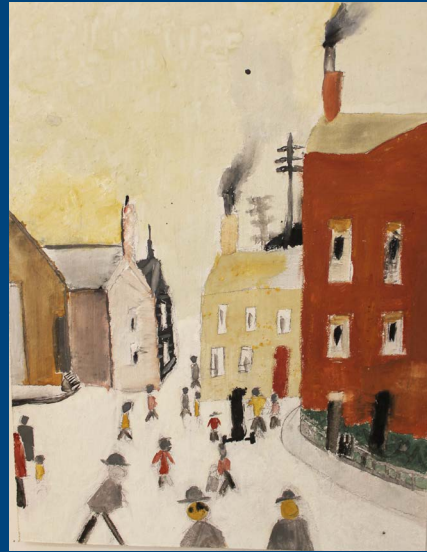
As last year, the second half began with Y8 striding through the audience with drums, bells and whistles in a percussive samba, followed by Guitar Group's *Baggy Trousers*. Y7 and Y8 sang Debbie's arrangement of *La Mer* by Charles Trenet, followed by Johnny Nash's 1970 hit *I can see clearly now*. Folk Club played the trad. *Helston Furry Dance* and Senior Choir followed with two songs, *City of Stars* from the film *La La Land*, and *The Birth of the Lyre* by Debbie. In between all the group performances, we were treated to piano and violin solos from Nikhil, Leo, Hugo and Daniel, a Y7/8 woodwind trio with more from *Carmen*, a Y8 jazz quartet played *Take Five*, and Matt's winning music tech piece. After the Staff Band sang Bill Wither's *Lovely Day*, it was time for the whole school to come together for one last song to say goodbye to Claire and Lynne with *Thank for your Wisdom* – with ABBA's lyrics superbly adapted by Debbie.



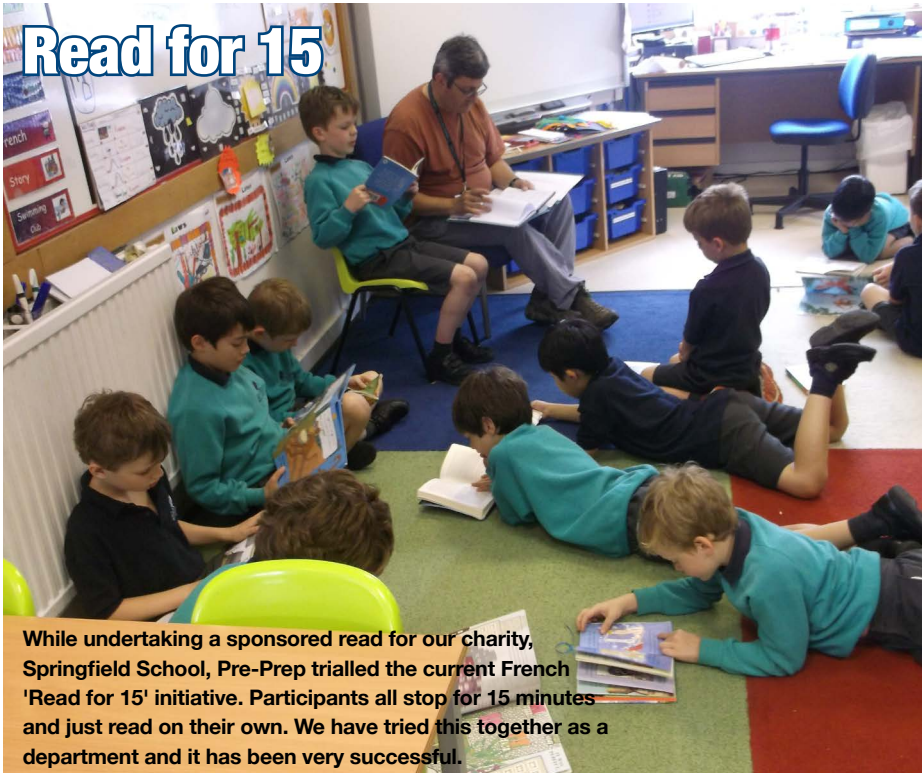
Thank you to Director of Music Debbie Rose, Lenka, Rob, Paul, Helen and the visiting music teachers, accompanists Ilya, Jamie and Karina, staff and all who helped to make the evening such a success.







Read for 15



While undertaking a sponsored read for our charity, Springfield School, Pre-Prep trialed the current French 'Read for 15' initiative. Participants all stop for 15 minutes and just read on their own. We have tried this together as a department and it has been very successful.

Forest School



International Day

For our International Day, each Pre-Prep class found out about their country through dressing in traditional costume, learning some basic language, doing crafts, making music and other activities.

We also had a visiting Samba drummer from Brazil, who taught the boys to clap and sing phrases and play a range of instruments to the Samba beat.

We had a whistle stop tour of three continents, visiting Japan, Australia and The Gambia, and we got back from our experiences just in time to return to our homes around Oxfordshire!

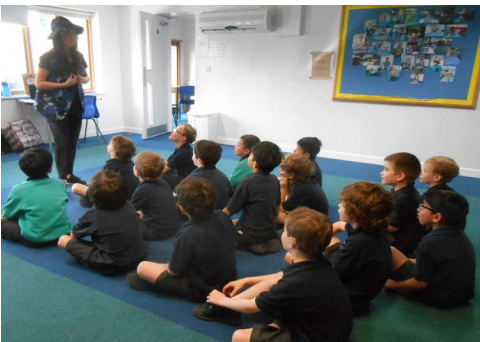




Pre-Prep Dramas

The children in Reception have had great fun acting out the play of Cinderella and improvising with all sorts of props! There were some incredibly bossy wicked step sisters, who insisted on ensuring Cinderella didn't stop for a minute. With an exciting invitation and a ball at the palace, everything ended happily with the prince requesting Cinderella to marry him!

Pre-Prep also used their imagination to visit the jungle in a drama workshop below.



Tea in the Teepee

Y1 and the Great Explorers

From Captain Cook and Christopher Columbus's voyages across oceans, to Edmund Hillary's ascent of Mount Everest and Neil Armstrong's mission to the Moon, Year 1 have explored the world in their history and geography topic.



Our 'Mound' Everest!

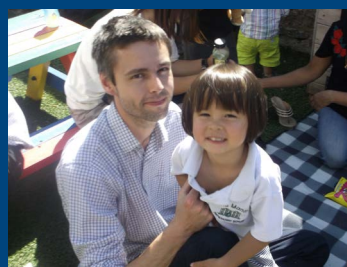
Pre-Prep Summer Concert, Prizegiving and Teddy Bear's Picnic



Pre-Prep held their annual Summer Concert and prize-giving afternoon. We sailed the seas with pirate songs, sea shanties and a stop in the ports of three different continents to sing traditional songs from Africa, Australia and Japan.

There were solo performances by a number of boys on a variety of instruments including; the drums, cello, piano and ukulele as well as a fabulous rendition of *Pirates of the Caribbean* by Year 2. The children dressed to represent their countries, received prizes and said thank you to many people for their help and support. Our Year 2 Ambassadors passed over their jackets to the new Year 1 boys with promises to train them by the end of the term.

This was all rounded off with a fabulous Teddy Bears' Picnic in the garden.



Cotswold Wildlife Park



Reception and Year 1 had a fabulous trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park, where the boys had an amazing day filled with fun and new experiences.

There were new babies to be seen around the zoo and many of the animals were alert and active. However the baby rhino lazed in the sun and a little further on there was much excitement as the lion cubs lay in the shade watching their mother prowling the fence.



What, with a picnic lunch, a ride on the train and an ice-cream, we certainly had a hot, busy and exciting time!
Linda Gaskell



Bike Day



Reception and Year 1 brought their bikes into school. Following a safety session and a helmet check to ensure they fitted, we were off!



Pre-prep Sports Day



The weather was perfect for our Pre-Prep sports day and a gentle breeze kept the young athletes cool as they took part in a range of activities from sack racing and target throwing to relay races and hurdles.

All of the Year 1 and Reception children took part in team activities, working around the events and trying to accomplish new personal bests! Year 2 took part in some activities on a slightly more competitive level and then everyone joined together for the traditional house relay race.

As ever it was a very close competition, with Unicorn coming in just ahead of Dragon with a few seconds to spare. The boys were rewarded with a delicious ice-lolly supplied by the JPA, before making their way home for a well earned rest!



Sports Day

The weather held for our second Sports Day at Tilsley Park, which introduced new events: 60m hurdles, 75m, 150m, 300m and Javelin for Y7 and Y8.

In the Junior Section, there were some really strong performances from Dylan, Oliver C, Zachary and Oliver V, but the *Victor Ludorum* went jointly to Ted in Y3 for winning the 600m and long jump and Paul in Y3, who won the 150m and the vortex throw.

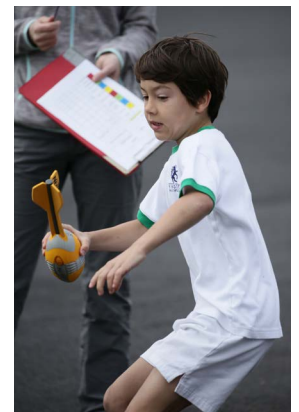
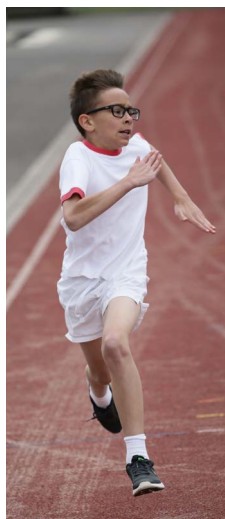
The Middle Section competition was closer. Luke G in Y5 won the 75m and high jump and Unicorn won the house relay in a new record time. In Y6, Tom won the 300m and the cricket ball, but it

seemed like the whole school gathered by the high jump to watch James A W set a new record of 1m 47cm. It was the moment of the morning and James added the 200m title in a new record time of 29s. However, the *Victor Ludorum* went to George in Y5, who won three events; the 300m, 800m and long jump.

In Y7 and Y8 there were also notable performances from Charlie and Jack in Y7 who each won two events. Billy and Henry in Y8 also won their events. The *Victor Ludorum* for the senior boys went to Ollie T in Y7, who won the 200m and long jump, with a distance of 4.8m. He rounded this off by helping Phoenix win the relay in a new record time of 58:26.

It was appropriate that Phoenix, having won five out of the six relays, won the House Cup and Johnny was invited to step up and receive congratulations from the headmaster. A terrific morning of competition.

Steve Hibberd





Cricket Training Camp

Twenty Year 7 and 8 boys enjoyed a warm weather cricket training camp at Desert Springs Resort in Murcia, Spain towards the end of the Easter holiday. The superb facilities were used by England to prepare for the 2014 Ashes Tour and they did not disappoint. Grass net practice in the mornings followed by limited over matches in the afternoon provided the boys with the opportunity to practise and hone their technique earlier in the season than normal. As the days progressed all of the boys improved immeasurably.

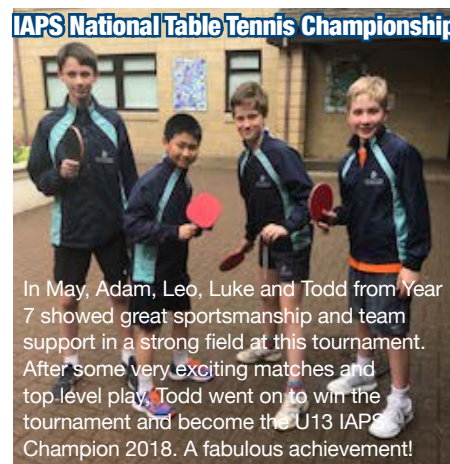
Ashley David-Ward



U9s vs Chandlings in the May sunshine



William in the U11As scored 51 n.o. against Pinewood



IAPS National Table Tennis Championship

In May, Adam, Leo, Luke and Todd from Year 7 showed great sportsmanship and team support in a strong field at this tournament. After some very exciting matches and top-level play, Todd went on to win the tournament and become the U13 IAPS Champion 2018. A fabulous achievement!

House Swimming Galas

The Year 3 and 4 House Swimming Gala was held at Abingdon Prep. **Phoenix** won the Junior Cup. The Intermediate and Senior House Swimming Gala took place at Abingdon senior school's 25m pool. During a competitive afternoon of house swimming, four school swimming records were broken.

In Year 5, the outstanding performer was Xander from Griffin who won the 25m Backstroke and Freestyle and anchored his house team to victory in the Relays. There were also fine performances from Ollie, Jack and Philip. Whilst in Years 6, Ned and Nathaniel broke a school record each in their races. James, Alex and Angus also impressed.

Y5 & Y6 Results: 1st – Griffin, 2nd – Dragon, 3rd – Phoenix, 4th – Unicorn

In Year 7, the outstanding performers were Quinn (50m Freestyle & 50m Breaststroke), Archie, Jack, Tye and Monty. Unicorn team won both relays smashing the school record by two seconds in the Freestyle Relay. In Year 8 there was a whole host of talented swimmers. Christopher won the 25m Backstroke, 25m Butterfly and the 50m Freestyle. Alex, Jonny, William, Harrison and Tom all won their individual races. Unicorn again won both relays and broke the school record in the Freestyle Relay

Y7 & Y8 Results: 1st – Unicorn, 2nd – Griffin, 3rd – Phoenix, 4th – Dragon

Ashley David-Ward



New School Swimming Records

U11 - 25m Backstroke	Ned	18:36
U11 - 50m Freestyle	Nathaniel	33:37
U12 - Freestyle Relay	Unicorn	1:10:45
U13 - Freestyle Relay	Unicorn	1:04:46



National Prep Schools Athletics Championships

Tremendous results for Abingdon Prep at the National Prep Schools Athletics Finals at the Alexander Stadium in Birmingham. Three boys represented APS and all achieved podium places in finals of the boys' events. Many congratulations to:

- Ollie 1st in the U13 long jump
- Quinn 2nd in the U13 1500m
- James 1st in the U12 high jump

Steve Hibberd



Y6 Devon Cricket Tour



receiving a warm welcome from our hosts. This time we won the toss. A steady batting display with a needed injection of runs from William, Angus and Mikey allowed us to post a respectable score of 116 for 4. With six overs left, victory looked close, however, Yelverton's middle order batsmen scored 24 runs off nine deliveries, securing victory with just four deliveries left in the match!

APS: 116 for 4 (William 18 N.O. Angus 14, Mikey 12). **Yelverton Bohemians CC: 119 for 7** (Sam 2 for 9). **Lost by 3 wickets.**

The Year 6s were great ambassadors for the school and received many positive comments. Sam and I would like to thank all the tourists for their great company.

Ashley David-Ward

In mid-June, the U11 A XI set off for the West Country. The first match of the tour was against Taunton Preparatory School. Upon arrival the team changed into their whites, put on their sun cream warmed-up to get the journey out of their legs. We lost the toss and Taunton elected to bat first, putting on an opening partnership of over 50 runs. However, Henry made the breakthrough and took a crucial wicket and we rattled through Taunton's middle order. William was the pick of the bowlers (O3 / M0 / R1 / W1). Henry and Tom got the team off to a good start with a 27 run partnership, however, our middle order batsmen offered little resistance as the Taunton attack put us under a great deal of pressure and we finished short of their score.

Taunton Prep: 136 for 5 (William 1 for 1, Sam 1 for 8) **APS: 88 for 8** (Tom 18) - **Lost by 48 runs**

Although on a cricket tour, the highlight of the weekend was certainly the surfing at Polzeath Beach on Saturday! The surf was a clean 2-3 ft. swell, perfect for many of the beginners in the group. By the end of the 2 hour lesson, almost all of the boys had stood up on their boards. The most outstanding surfers were Mikey and Angus. Lunch and football on the beach warmed our boys up. We returned to base on the crest of a wave and ready for tenpin bowling later!

The next day, we checked out and made our way to the Yelverton Bohemian Cricket Club,



IAPS National Triathlon Championship Jonny in Year 8 competed in the triathlon championship held at Dulwich College. He ran the fastest time in the final discipline of the event and finished in an amazing 3rd place.



IAPS National Tennis Championship Sam and Max in Year 5 competed in the U11 category over two days at Millfield School, combining with the Manor Prep School girls in the mixed competition. Despite being a year younger than most of the other competitors Sam and Max won seven of their eleven sets. The Manor/Abingdon Prep finished in a creditable fourth place in the overall competition. Both boys can be exceptionally proud of the performances.



Sporting Awards

The following awards were made at the end of the year prizegiving ceremony:

Prior Cup for Sportsman of the Year: Will.

Junior Sportsman of the Year: Finn.

Anderson Cup for Cricket: Ben and Dylan.

APS Athletics Award: Billy.

APS Cross-Country Award: Johnny.

APS Football Award: Harry and Charlie.

APS Golf Award: Oliver.

APS Hockey Award: Lucas.

APS Swimming Award: Alex and Christopher.

Belvedere Shield for Rugby: Henry.

Cricket All-Rounder Cup: George and Amar.

Young Blades Fencing Award: Edward.



Cricket Awards

In summer term we celebrate cricketing endeavour. The 'Most Outstanding Player' naturally comes from the 1st XI of each year. The 'Most Improved Player' can come from any team in each age group.

Team	Most Improved	Most Outstanding
Under 8s	Michael	Zayaan
Under 9s	Leon	Charlie
Under 10s	Ollie	Luke
Under 11s	Henry	William
Under 12s	Harry	Todd
Under 13s	Valentino	

Y8 Special Awards and Subject Prizes

Special Awards:

The Governors' Prize for all round involvement in the School: Harvey.

The Savin Cup for academic achievement in the end of year public exams: Tom Wo.

The Abingdon Award for most outstanding academic results: Thomas and Tom R.

Peer Cup chosen by Y8: Rahul.

Vaux Cup for supreme effort: Valentino



Subject Prizes & Awards:

Art: Xander, Sacha. **CDT:** Milo, Alex.

English: Clem. **Geography:** George,

French: Tom P, Freddie

History: Valentino. **ICT:** Harrison.

Latin: Ludo, Tom W. **Music:** Tom R.

Maths: Johnny, Jamie S.

RE: Thomas. **Science:** Jamie W.

Post-exam Projects: Harry, Harvey, and Oran.

The Music Award: Josef

The Drama Award: Hugo

Backstage Technical Awards: Harry, Oran, Oliver and Ruairidh.



House Merit Cup

This was won with a total of 12,673 merits and house points for the year by

Griffin!

Earlier in the week, the House Captains and Vice-Captains who will lead their Houses towards the trophy in 2018-19 were announced (below).



Karina Philip

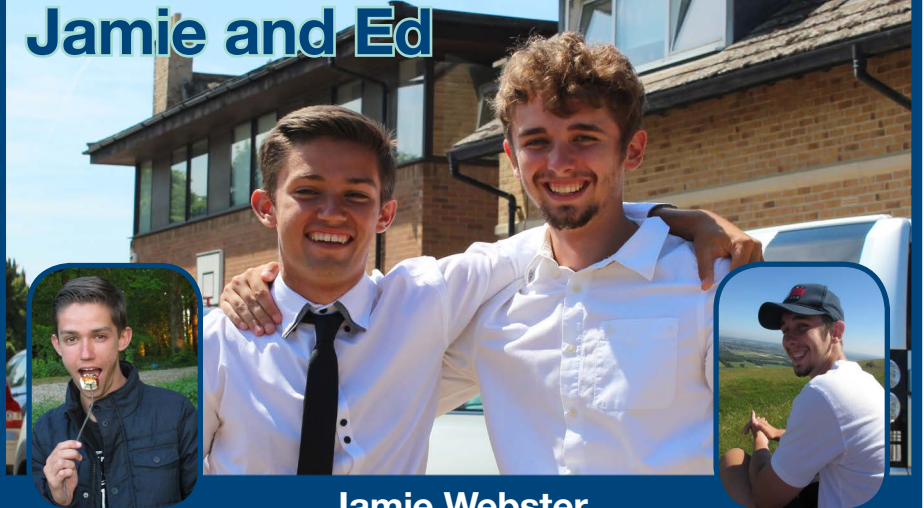


Although only with us for a term, Karina made a big impact as Head of English. She joined in the life of the school with a commitment which was very much appreciated: judging the House Vocalist Competition, playing piano at the Summer concert and hiking with Year 8 on the Ridgeway. Karina, we wish you every success as you plan your next move.

Last moments at APS for Y8 and their parents



Jamie and Ed



Jamie Webster

Jamie made a big impact on us as a community. He forged a great relationship with the staff, but it is his relationship with the boys that has impressed us all. No job has been too much for Jamie and he has immersed himself tirelessly in his role as a Gappy. He has been an extremely effective coach to boys from Year 1 all the way up to Year 8. He can be particularly proud of the role that he played in helping the Under 10As to their unbeaten run during the football season and the enthusiasm that he has demonstrated to all of the boys that he has coached. He accompanied the boys on the Normandy Trip as well as the Cricket Tour to Spain. His good nature and humour meant that he was a perfect companion for both the boys and staff alike. We wish Jamie the best of luck as he embarks on teacher training in Swansea. We have no doubt that he will make a great teacher.

Edward Cockerham

Edward has been a big asset on the sports fields this year. But it is in the swimming pool where he has made the biggest impact. As a regional swimmer himself, he has transferred much of his knowledge to the boys and inspired them to some tremendous performances in many of the biathlon and swimming championships over the academic year. The Pre-Prep swimmers have also enjoyed Edward's enthusiasm and encouragement during their lessons. Edward is easy going but his willing approach has endeared him to the whole school community. Like Jamie, he has been good company on trips and we will miss him greatly. Edward leaves us to take up a Post Graduate Teacher Training Course in Oxford. We wish him the very best of luck!

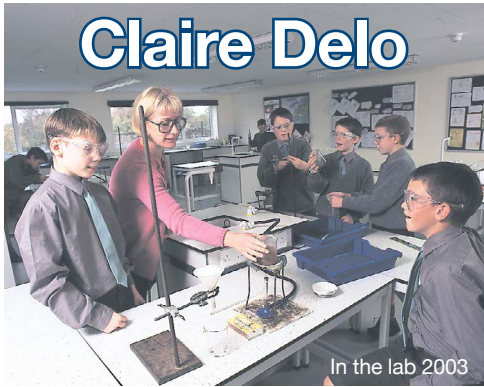
Ashley David-Ward

Y8 Leavers



Destinations: Abingdon School (34); Radley College (4); Magdalen College School (1).

AbingdonPrep Fond Farewells



Claire's APS story started thirty years ago when she joined the school part time, with some time off to have four children of her own and coming to work full time 22 years ago. She had one of those children during an Easter holiday and was then back teaching when term started – unheard of nowadays. Claire has been a good friend from the moment I started. She knew her way around and was always willing to help out in the days when you learned almost by yourself as there was no mentoring system like there is now.

Claire has been so vital to the school. Apart from her brilliant teaching, she has done so much work behind the scenes, including all the safeguarding. Many a time I know she's been tearing her hair out because someone new has joined, but getting hold of them to do the training proves challenging. Managing insets and budgets have also come under her wing and she has often had a secret chuckle to herself when even



Headmasters have come to ask her for money to go on a course.

Claire has also trained to be an inspector, a really demanding job involving some long days. It gave our school a good insight into what inspectors look for. She has mentioned to me the look of fear on teachers' faces as she walked down corridors. Bet she liked that feeling of power, really!

Gardening club has been her baby too. A friend of hers who had a son at school suggested that they start one. Mother and son left the school after a year, leaving Claire at the helm ever since! Claire has battled with rabbits to try and stop them eating the produce but the garden has been very productive. ECO club has been another of her pets. Boys would come round, check classrooms and bins, see if the lights and screens had been



left on. I often used to get a black mark, no matter how many times I told the boys in the club that my lights were automatic. Claire, of course, just found it funny!

Claire is always keen to get cooking into science from pizzas to fairy cakes. The boys rise to the challenge and they can often be seen around the school munching their results. Her one difficulty has been getting all the boys to engage with washing up to the same high standards.

Claire was also one of the pioneer teachers who went to the Jimba Gede school in Kenya (top



right) that we used to have links with. She taught a class of 60 pupils how to use a stopwatch to learn how to take their pulse. All the pupils had said their pulse was 65 which confused Claire until she realised they had never had a practical science lesson before, everything they had learned came out of a text book, which said that the average pulse was 65.

Until she moved house recently, Claire cycled to school from Radley in nearly all weathers, in her cycle gear and hi-viz jacket. It's a distance of seven miles and there have been several times when her colleagues have had to rescue her due to punctures.

Claire has also come on some school trips with me. She came to Paris and Normandy and was a great help. She has a fun sense of humour which always helps trips go well. The most recent trip was with the Year 7s to Laser Tag and she was desperate to have a go on the high ropes, even to the point of bringing her cycling gloves with her so she could get a good grip. Pity her landing technique was not as graceful as her climbing!

Claire, you have given a huge chunk of your life to this school and you deserve to be remembered with great fondness. We all wish you a happy and rewarding retirement, whichever of your homes you spend it in. Clearly, no jealousy there!!

Lynne Hough



Jo joined us for an interview in Feb 2016. I remember it well as she had just flown in from Majorca with a suitcase of Curly Wurlys - her lesson involved breaking the code of the lock - it made my lessons look boring in comparison. Within hours we had formed an incredible bond. Her enthusiasm is infectious and she really cares about her profession and the people she serves. Jo is always full of ideas - she'll come bouncing in with suggestions, and know by my facial expression whether I was in the right mood for them!

After the birth of her second son, Jo joined us on a full time basis as a Year 3 teacher. She has been with us for only a short time, but has had an incredible impact on us all. Here are some comments from her boys:

"Jo is full of kindness, fun and beautifulness."

"Jo is the best teacher in the entire universe."

"I am going to miss the smile on Jo's face."

We have shared an eventful journey, and you will always be part of my life. Good luck in your new journey.

Trudi Hibberd



Lynne Hough



Lynne started at Josca's in 1996, 22 years ago. Rather appalled by the inaccurate marking of her son's French homework, she approached the head Tony Savin and told him, in a way that only Lynne could, that she could teach French better! She was given the job and we 'haven't got rid of her since.'

Lynne is a superb French teacher; passionate about the subject and exact in her delivery of it. Her approach is traditional, relying on her personality, humour and resources to deliver the curriculum precisely how she feels it should be taught. The famous purple grammar book, which pupils put together over their years with Lynne, is so precious that they are told to guard it with their lives. The Good Schools Guide visited the school in 2017, and they said of her lesson:

"Next was the best French lesson we've ever observed – a whole class of unselfconscious 13-year-olds belting out their avoir and être verbs to (with true entente cordiale) *God*

Save our Gracious Queen and La Marseillaise, followed by a brilliant rap complete with hand gestures. One feels this is French that will never be forgotten."

Lynne combines her amazing rapport with absolute discipline. Having her pupils' respect, boys know exactly where they stand. When I mentioned to one of my pupils in Science who had forgotten his books yet again that Lynne would have given a demerit for that, he replied, "Yes, but Lynne's amazing."



As Year 7 form teacher Lynne has kept a motherly eye on generations of boys. On joining her form she tells them they are the most important boys in the school to her, she has 'no favourites'. She supports them academically and pastorally as they navigate their way into adolescence. One key message she gives is to use deodorant!

Lynne loves to don her Cleopatra outfit so World Book Day provides the perfect excuse, and she always enters into the spirit of school events. She's very competitive, taking the annual Year 7 Laser Tag battle very seriously. Even if Anne's form wins on points, Lynne will have a reason why her boys won technically!

It is fair to say that Lynne struggles with the growing use of technology, in teaching and administration, refusing a whiteboard and iPad. I think the mystery of it to her was summed up when she asked what a Google doc was!



Lynne has organised many trips to France, not least the weeks spent in Normandy with Year 8. Taking forty demob-happy 13-year-olds abroad can present challenges and return many anecdotes, including hospital visits with 'dishy ambulance drivers', (all the boys returned safe and sound). She's had to be a customs officer, confiscating knives, firecrackers and laser pens bought legally in France but illegal in the UK. She's been a diplomat, on one occasion extricating a boy barricaded in by an angry shopkeeper after he'd been caught doing something silly. We love to hear about the boys cuddling baby goats and 'tat central' shopping at Mont St Michel. Lynne has proved adept at getting the odd boy through passport control without documents when they have gone awry. Word of this skill must have spread as a couple of stowaways tried to sneak onto the coach on the recent trip, to no avail.

This picture sums up Lynne, her sense of fun, the enjoyment she has being with the boys and the delight pictured on their smiling faces. The School will miss her.

Claire Delo



Jane has been with us for two years and has been pivotal in her role as Admissions Manager and Personal Assistant to the Headmaster. I shall use the analogy of our school as an apple to illustrate this! First, we see the attractive shiny apple skin, much as we see what lies on the surface of our school - the beautiful planting, the corridors and classrooms which look clean and inviting at the start of a day or for an event. Beneath the skin we have the flesh which is like the substance of our school. Surrounding the centre, we find the pips. Not everyone's favourite part, but essential in the same way that the day to day problems of a school do need to be addressed. At the heart of the apple is the core. If we cut the apple in half around its middle, and look at its cross section, we see a star there. That is Jane. Like the star which often remains hidden but is essential to give the apple its structure, Jane has been very busy at the core of our school. She is the one who organises the weekly planning for all staff so that



Jane Herold

everyone knows what they are doing, from cleaners to caterers, from gardeners to gap students. It is Jane who ensures the school looks presentable for prospective parents and pupils and guides them through the substance of our school, ensuring that the experience of our visitors is smooth and enjoyable. Jane often has to sort out the 'pips' or problems of the school. She is the person staff will go to, whether it be for ordering extra packed lunches or getting the playground cordoned off for parking. Jane often helps to find solutions, giving out sound, practical advice. She is unafraid to speak her mind whilst retaining her professionalism and sense of calm and she is a listening ear to many and a support to all.

Jane has an exciting new adventure ahead as Registrar at Pangbourne College and I am sure that she will quickly become the star at the core of their school too. We thank you for all you have done for us, Jane and wish you every happiness. You will be greatly missed.

Rachel Paiman

AbingdonPrep Charities & JPA

This year we supported a local charity, Springfield School in Witney. The school provides education for children and young people with severe learning difficulties and communication problems. During the year, it was great to see some of the Springfield children join our boys at Forest School to enjoy joint activities.



We have again had a range of successful events this year, which included a Bold and Bright home clothes day, our annual quiz and the Christmas Bazaar, where the boys' stalls alone brought in over £500. Pre-Prep demonstrated their enthusiasm for books and raised an amazing £700 with a sponsored read. We also saw the return of the APS Bake Off and the sponsored swim at the senior school. Many of the boys swam considerably further than they had hoped to - unfortunate for those who had sponsored per length!



Some of our swimmers with their Sponsored Swim certificates

A big thank you to all who helped raise over **£8,000** for Springfield School.

Every year, our houses vote to raise funds for charities of their choosing. The boys decide and then run their own events. Dragon ran their annual and ever popular sweet tombola to raise money for the Children's Air Ambulance. Griffin chose to raise funds for Great Ormond Street hospital and asked the boys to dig around in their Grandad's cupboard to find the craziest,

nastiest kipper tie to wear - some were quite shocking! Not to be outdone, Unicorn had a wacky glasses days, with some boys going to great lengths and questions were asked as to whether boys could actually see! Finally, Phoenix donated the money from a successful cake sale to Help for Heroes.

Anne Parker

The Bench Project

In CDT this term, Year 6 worked with a parent architect, Phoebe Gresford, to design a new seating area to be positioned outside the MUSA. It will be built and funded by the JPA, and the whole school will benefit from this entrepreneurial project.

Having surveyed the area, the boys brainstormed ideas, deciding on key features such as:

- The **function**: e.g. quiet time sitting or reading, chatting together, playing chess, planning things, refereeing, or just to watch the sky...
- The **purpose** - how many would their bench seat? e.g. lots to promote chat or a few to give personal space.
- A **name** for their design - e.g. a communal bench, a relaxing seat, a listening bench, a recycled bench.

From their drawings and discussions the boys produced a series of 3D models made from wood, styrofoam and card to demonstrate their final group outcomes. Phoebe has the hard job of combining or choosing a final design to be made from the boys' thoughtful suggestions. The CDT department is looking forward to sharing developments this autumn. *Katie Smith*



Thank you ...

Another great year of events and fundraising has been and gone. A massive thank you to everyone on the JPA committee and other helpers who've given their time to make this happen. A special thanks to Susie and her team for organizing a memorable ball.

If you have great ideas or time to give, please come and be part of the JPA next year. Can we also remind all parents that we are always grateful for help at events, whether on the day or in advance to help plan and set up.

Stuart Bonthron, JPA Chair

Did you know you can follow APS on social media?

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