



St. Edward's Prep  
Bursar

April 2015

CLICK THESE LINKS  
TO FOLLOW US ON:

twitter

facebook

INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:

Year 6 Mi- 2  
crosoft Trip

Tweets! 3

Sulgrave 4  
Manor for  
Year 5

Science 5  
Week Fun!

Titanic Jour- 7  
ney for Year  
6

Year 3 As- 8  
sembly

Year 2 News 9-  
10  
External 11

Sports News

Red Nose  
Day

## FROM MR MOTTRAM

Summer Term

Issue 78

At the end of February we said a very sad farewell to Sue Marson, our bursar, who had decided after 12 years with St. Edward's and The Highlands Schools to retire to do some travelling and spend some more time with her grandchildren. The boys and staff said goodbye in assembly and a few tears were shed as Sue will be sorely missed by everyone at the school. We wish her well for her retirement.

We currently have three sets of parents that kindly display boards outside their houses three times a year advertising our Open Days. If you are in a position to do the same, please let Mrs Glass know and she will arrange for one to be delivered and displayed for you.

The rest of the front page is dedicated to all the boys who have done so well with House Point Star Awards and Straight As in their Grade Cards. It's not easy to secure these accolades and I am delighted to see that the Straight As list has grown this term!

*Grant Mottram*

### Gold Star House Point Award



Abeer Gogia, Stratos Voudouris, Keshav Joshi, Lewis Lloyd, Oliver Ireland, Rhys Warwick, Jasper Bromfield, James Perry, Adam Richmond-Coggan

### Silver Star House Point Award



Thomas Browne, Isaac Sperrin, Sulaiman Ahmed, Dev Mohan, Joshua Sperrin, Hector Denton, James Fox, Reiss-Alexander Russell-Denny, Ansh Barot, Robert Page-Mason, Arturo Dezon, Rohit Laibu, Avi Pasikanti, Rhys Sankarsingh, Varun Chaganty, Ben Mayer, Henry Silcock, Joe Tomblin, Anton Pappenberger, Gaurav Bains, Dillon Bromfield, Theo Trood, Anish Bhadresa, Anthony Jones



### Bronze Star House Point Award



Justin Figueria, Jathu Ananthasothy, Ollie Lewis, Zaeem Ashan, Shalom Robinson, Anton Thomas-Stach, Rory Worth, Sid-dharth Jani, Thomas Brice-Wernham, Ishaan Kulkarni, Manaswith Vipperla,

Nathan Green, Dominic Hartigan, Josh Chung, James Leach, Yuhanis Muneer, Rishabh Ramesha, Kit Haley, Kabirul Chowdhury, Dominique Bounang, Thomas Hewitt, Pierce Brown, Elias Cevikel-Li, Daniel Hewitt, Diamond Edwards, Joe Pollard, Josh Brooking, Oliver Silcock, Alex Langton, Raheel Farooq, Kelphala Katta, Angus Scott-Brent, Oliver Langton, Daniel Slade, Yusuf Umair, Jonathan Jones, Noah Walcott

### *Straight As*

Abeer Gogia, Avi Pasikanti, Billy Peters-Hoult, Ethan Miot, Matthew Perry, Joseph Swift, Zach Taylor-Clague, Ansh Barot, Stratos Voudouris, Hector Denton

### Sports Colours were also awarded to the following boys for the outstanding effort during the Spring Term;

Dillon Bromfield, Jasper Bromfield, Nathan Green, Alex Langton, Ollie Langton, Kelphala Katta, Henry Temple, Ollie Lewis, Diamond Edwards, Sam O'Brien, Rory Worth, Jai Mohan, Dev Mohan, Josh Brooking

### Drama Colours were awarded to the following boys for their fantastic performances in Pinocchio;

Diamond Edwards, Keshav Joshi and Sam O'Brien.

## YEAR 6 TRIP TO MICROSOFT

Year 6 had an awesome day at Microsoft. We did so much and we were surrounded by people who love computers. First we were asked to demonstrate a coding language called Touch Develop, then we were asked to design and write our own game using a brilliant coding language called Kodu. We were split into teams of 3 and each one of us had to think about what we could do best for the team. I was the leader and thought about what people would like to play, Daniel was a brilliant coder and Theo designed the game with apples and mountains, kodus and water. Then we had a tour of Microsoft where we saw the Microsoft campus. We couldn't believe how amazing it was. We were asked to present our game and we had a real laugh listening to Stuart (the presenter) telling us how to make our game better, and how we could make money from selling and marketing the game. We were in a big room with two other schools from Wales. Two people from the Xbox team came to talk to us about their jobs, and someone called a 'Digital storyteller'. We loved asking the Xbox team lots of questions about the way Microsoft sell their Xbox games, and we heard how difficult it is to write tweets about Microsoft in only 180 characters. Some of the boys had a go at writing a tweet about the day below. Lastly we asked some of the Microsoft team how we could get to work at Microsoft and they said that they had an apprentice scheme and also a graduate scheme. We loved the day and we thought Kodu was a very good programming language which we enjoyed. We learnt a lot about working in teams, and how to help each other.

To download the Kodu game go to:

<http://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/download/details.aspx?id=10056>

Report by Joe Tomblin

Some tweets the boys wrote;



## YEAR 6 MICROSOFT TRIP—TWEETS

Henry Silcock:

Our day at Microsoft was amazing. We had a tour of the place- they have 5 buildings. Kodu was pretty epic-we made game. #xbox\_and\_coffee\_heaven.

Sachin Vara:

#koduwonderland #koduday **was great. I couldn't believe** how amazing it really was.

Yuhanis Muneer:

#xboxsfordayz: It was great! There were quad screen monitor setups and the campus was massive. Kodu was a lot better than expected.

Kit Haley:

#Kodu Year 6 had a great day out at Microsoft programming an awesome game using Kodu. Great banter!

Daniel Slade:

#xboxwonderland: Wow! Amazing! Had a great day surrounded by computers!

Ben Campbell:

#microsoftvisit2015: Totally epic, made a game for a small competition. Kodu = epic. Download it.

Joe Tomblin:

It really is a great coding language #koduwonderland ;-)

Anton Stach:

@Microsoft on #Koduday we were put into group to complete a task to make a game with mountains, water and apples.

Stratos Voudouris:

#KoduFTW: It was amazing at Microsoft. Kodu is a well thought out programme and a nice, easy way to code a game. The tour was also great.

Varun Chaganty:

#koduwonderland. Oh, what a day. Kodu was amazing. We were shown Touch Develop & then given an amazing challenge of making our own game in threes.

Sulaiman Ahmed:

#koduday was brilliant. I loved seeing all the coding that u have 2 do 2 make a game and I enjoyed talking 2 the Xbox team.

Joe Pollard:

#koduday: Made epic game at Microsoft on #koduday in xboxwonderland - download Kodu.

## SULGRAVE MANOR TRIP—YEAR 5

After a long journey to Banbury, Year 5, accompanied by Mrs Andrew and Mr Fearn, entered the grounds of Sulgrave Manor. It was once owned by Lawrence Washington, the great, great, great, great, GREAT grandfather of America's first President George, and the boys were instantly impressed by its grandeur. We were met by Tudor maids, dressed appropriately, who would be our guides for the day. Everyone was given their Tudor clothes to change into, and the boys all seemed to jump into character as soon as they changed outfits! They were then treated to all sorts of exciting activities, including a tour of the house and its grounds. They learnt a great deal about the history of the manor, and how rich and poor Tudor people lived. The boys also took part in a role-play involving Henry VIII and his six wives, and although no one dressed up as girls, most were forced to act like them at some point!

All the boys seemed to really enjoy the experience, and it was a thoroughly useful and entertaining trip.

J. Fearn



## MARCH'S SCIENCE WEEK

Science week this year was focused on the theme "Food Science" and formed part of a mad March of science, including the chick hatchings and a Year 6 trip to Microsoft to learn about coding. We also celebrated the solar eclipse celebrations in the cloud and noticed ... well not a lot really. However, most of us then went inside to watch the "Eclipse Live" programme on the BBC and so were able to appreciate this magnificent spectacle.

The week started with an egg-splasive demonstration featuring flambéed banana followed by boiled eggs and marshmallow breakfast in the microwave. Whoever said there was no such thing as a free breakfast when at work? Mr James then tried to convince the audience of his divine ancestry by turning water into wine. He managed to convince the parents watching that it was wine, with some of them taking a big gulp of what was actually fairly concentrated blackcurrant squash! Yuck!

Other activities included;

An after-school cookery club which encouraged children at any age to get cooking. We helped bake some scrumptious coconut macaroons for the Comic Relief cake sale.

An after-school gardening club whereby we planted some potatoes, beans and tomatoes in the school garden.

Vegetable face competitions in Art and a tutor time Food Science quiz, with the winners winning a fridge magnet

Live web chats with scientists about Food Science and science in general. The boys were particularly interested in the work with microscopes that some of the scientists did.

Food Science competitions in the prep school science lessons including building the tallest towers from a choice of materials: marshmallows, jelly babies, spaghetti and cocktail sticks. This required teamwork, planning, thought of the appropriate use of the materials and tower structure as well as having the dexterity to build it quickly.

A few of the year groups had the opportunity to make their own sherbet from the raw ingredients citric acid granules, icing sugar and bicarbonate of soda. Mr James had to, unfortunately, judge the recipes based on taste and at the end of a day did not like sherbet quite as much as he did at the start! He was very impressed with the quality of the sherbets produced - it relied on using previous recipes to inform the basis for adaptations to the recipe to improve it. This scientific principle of 'continuous development' is a key requirement to the food taste development in the Food Industry as well as all other science industries.

Year 3 learnt about how beans grow and pre-prep did food activities such as making gingerbread men (Reception) and making fruit smoothies (Year 2). Other teachers also included a "Food" skew to their lessons during the week.



## **MARCH'S SCIENCE WEEK—CONTINUED**

On Wednesday and Thursday during the week, we had workshops from the Chocolate Factory. The boys learnt how chocolate tempers (sets) and got to create and package their own chocolate creations which they could take home. All of the boys and staff thoroughly enjoyed this event.

Finally, on Friday we topped it off with our Comic Relief assembly. 6J and the last-minute step-in (due to illness) of Justin Figuiera, gave an excellent performance of the characters of the St. Edward's staff room. Some characters were uncannily true to life - Mrs Andrews (Stratos), Mrs Glass (Varun), Mr Mottram (Anton) and Mrs Swift (Sulaiman). This was topped by singing the Comic Relief song "Put on a Funny face" in which several students in their attempts to custard pie Mr James ended up covered in pie instead. The video of the assembly was posted to the school Facebook site if you haven't seen it. The good news is Mr James remained unscathed. Well, until the end of the song anyway, when several of Year 6J and the REAL teachers who had been poked fun at ganged up on him for a mass pieing!



So how was Comic Relief tied in to science week? Well, we had a St. Edward's Bake Off. The Bake Off was a huge success with lots of cakes being donated and bought. Along with all of the Red Noses that 6J and the office staff managed to sell, we raised a marvellous £385 for Comic Relief. The UK government doubles the money raised from schools so the amount going to good causes will be £770. Daniel Slade and Varun Chaganty earned their Fundraiser badges for their excellent contributions during the week and for previous fundraising efforts.

I would like to thank all of the people that made this week possible - all of the boys in 6J, the rest of the boys that took part enthusiastically during the week and donated money and / or cake for Comic Relief, the staff and parents.

D. James



## **THE ORATORY DEBATING COMPETITION**

On Thursday 26th March 3 Year 6 boys represented the school in the annual Debating Day at the Oratory School. Joe Pollard, Ben Mayer and Yusuf Umair all enjoyed learning useful tips about public speaking and acquitted themselves well when it came to the competition, putting forward some very good arguments in favour of the motion "This house believes pupils should be allowed to leave school at 14."

They all showed an excellent knowledge and understanding of news and current affairs, and may well be inspired to pursue this interest in the future.

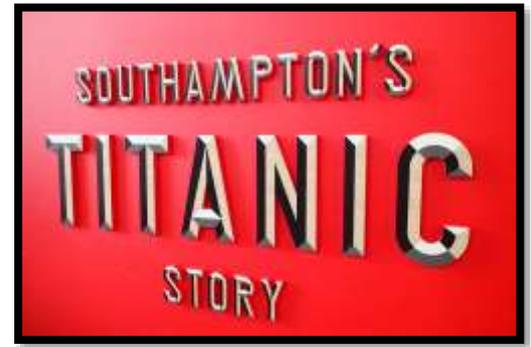
C. Anderson

## YEAR 6 VISIT SEACITY MUSEUM

Throughout the Spring Term, Year 6 have looked at Titanic, and the controversy surrounding its sinking. What better place to visit than the so-called 'unsinkable' ship's port of departure, Southampton, and its SeaCity Museum! Firstly the boys were treated to a series of questions from an expert, where they were asked lots about what they have learnt, to jog their memories. We were then guided through the museum itself, and the boys were asked to select someone from the 'crew wall'. Later, they would discover if their character made it through the ordeal alive. Some of our brave Year 6s then dressed up as people who had actually been on the Titanic – another opportunity for a select few to dress up as girls! The last part of the workshop involved an interactive session; the boys were able to get their hands on real artefacts recovered from the wreckage site, as well as newspapers from the time. There was also the opportunity to take part in an experiment which showed exactly how and why the ship sank, and the chance to pick who the boys thought deserved a place on the lifeboats. It was an extremely beneficial session, and Year 6 became engrossed in it; a credit to them.

The boys were given the chance to discover the museum in their own time after lunch, and really enjoyed the hands-on part of the day. Some even got the chance to steer the Titanic out of the dockyard! We were also able to look around the courtroom where the Titanic inquest took place, which was another fascinating part of the adventure. Mrs Andrew, Mrs Glass, Mr Langton and myself could see the boys had been genuinely moved by some of the things they had discovered, and it was a thoroughly enjoyable and beneficial trip for all.

J. Fearn



LOTS MORE  
PICTURES ON  
THE SCHOOL  
WEBSITE

## Y3 ANCIENT GREECE ASSEMBLY

Over the spring term Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Ancient Greeks. We started our topic by placing Ancient Greece in time and Greece (Ancient or otherwise) in place and decided we're quite keen to go on holiday there! Our learning went on to cover topics including Greek City States and conflicts between them, the history of the Olympics, Greek Gods and Myths, warfare and how we can learn about these through studying artefacts, the story of Troy – this captured all imaginations. During food science week the boys tasted a range of Greek foods, some of which (pitta bread and olive oil) were more popular than others (black olives and feta cheese)! Our art lessons were closely linked to our topic work and we had fun creating Greek vases, theatre masks and helmets which we wore during our assembly.

The boys also worked extremely hard at home on this topic producing prep of an exceptional standard. Of note I was lucky enough to 'mark' a number of informative PowerPoint presentations, a Sparta vs Athens Minecraft battle, Play Doh temples, mind maps created from a software package that I'm sure I'd struggle to use, numerous Greek quizzes, beautiful mosaics and a wonderful selection of expertly modelled togas! Well done boys!

So it was that Ancient Greece had to be the topic of our class assembly. We focused on telling the school about the two big city states Athens and Sparta and highlighted the differences between them. The art, poetry, theatre and democracy of Athens opposed to the war state of Sparta. However, keen to show off their fighting skills battle scenes between the Athenians, Spartans and Persians featured rather heavily! Once we had established that Homer was in fact a blind slave from Ancient Greece rather than a yellow cartoon character we also retold the story of the Battle of Troy. In our

version the Greeks declared that the Trojan soldiers were 'a load of cheats' and a Trojan soldier mused that he thought that his idea of a wooden chicken would have worked even better than a wooden horse!

The assembly climax was the boys singing and dancing (although this took some persuasion and a lot of rehearsal!) to a song called 'Heroes of Troy'. Thank you to all the parents who came to watch and we hope they and the rest of the school enjoyed the assembly as much as we did!



M. Swift

## STICK MAN IN THE WOODS

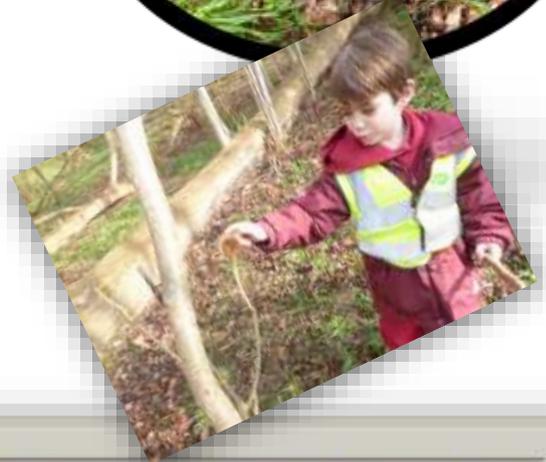
As a class we read the story of 'Stick Man' by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler.

Today Year 2 took Stick Man on an adventure in the woods at Pangbourne. The questions we asked were; Where is his home? What happens to him? What else could have happened to Stick Man in the story?

The boys found a stick which looked like Stick Man and put googly eyes on him. He was then taken on various adventures which involved building him a stick home. The resulting metropolis was called Stickcity. The boys worked co-operatively and singly, making a comfortable living room, an underground home, a conservatory, and a bathroom. We then had a game of 'Where's Stickman?'. Have a look at the photographs and see if you can spot him. He is well hidden in some homes!

We then left Stickman to his comfort and for other classes to play the 'Where's Stickman?' game. We hope he enjoys his new environment!

R. Daley-Franks



## YEAR 2 MAKE MEAD



## OH WE DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE!

We certainly do! What a brilliant day to choose to go to Southsea... the weather could not have been better and we really enjoyed the large dose of vitamin D!

After a cheerful coach journey, Year 1 boys were dropped off at Portsmouth Dockyard and we went on to Southsea.

The boys started their learning experience at the barracks, outside of which were some wonderful, old tanks to explore. Then a brisk walk along the Millennium Promenade brought us to our first stop...benches upon which to sit while enjoying a snack and marvelling at the many boats we saw, as well as Spithead Fort. There were signs around us giving information as to the general history of Southsea and identifying the ships.

The beach combing went well and some marvellous shells and stones were found along with seaweed and some unidentifiable 'eggs'. Stone throwing into the sea was great fun and we practised the art of 'skimming' stones. I wasn't very good at it!

We watched in amazement as the Hovercraft came into shore. You can see from the photographs how close we were! Great excitement as the air cushion inflated and deflated!

We had a wonderful picnic on the beach before doing some more beachcombing, watching various boats, finding out about red and green buoys and marvelling at the activity happening on the water.

Then of course, as tradition dictates, we set off to buy an ice cream and ate them on the promenade.

Finally, after a day of extra O2 in our lungs, we had a rather quiet coach journey home! The boys were marvellous as always and our great thanks are extended to Mrs Taylor-Clague who accompanied us on our trip.

I cannot wait to go back next year!!

R. Daley-Franks

### Young Writers Acrostics Competition

Year 2 pupils entered a national writing competition recently with Young Writers and almost all of them successfully got their poems



put through to be published in 'My First Acrostic'. A big well done to all the boys and Mrs Daley-Franks for entering them all!

G. Mottram

## EXTERNAL SPORTS NEWS

The Reading Abbey rugby club's annual festival (the shield) was on Sunday 22nd March. Jasper, Henry and Kelphala played for the U10's A team. They played 4 tough matches against Bracknell, Gensians, Reading and Wallingford and won them all to become the winners of their pool. They retained the shield for their age group, for the 3rd year in a row. Kelphala only joined Reading Abbey

two weeks ago and is already a great asset to the team. The trophy was awarded to the winning team with all the boys receiving their own individual medals. Angus Scott Brent represented the club in the B team who came runners up in their pool for their age group.

Paul Bromfield



## RED NOSE DAY

St. Edward's raised a staggering £320 for Comic Relief by baking and selling Red Nose Cakes for a Bake Off competition ably judged by our very own caterer, Andrew Lund, who had the very difficult job of choosing the winners; Gaurav and Jashan Bains, Anton Thomas -Stach, Max Williams, Oliver Ireland and Henri Maisonneuve.

6J rounded off our Science Week and our Comic Relief fundraising efforts with a hilarious assembly.

