



ST EDWARD'S SCHOOL
READING

October 2014

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St. Edward's School Newsletter

FROM MR MOTTRAM

Autumn Term

Issue 75

We are delighted to hear that six of our Year 6 boys have successfully passed the mark required to be entered into the Reading Grammar selection pool this year. Well done to you all and for those that missed out this time, I am sure that you tried your best so don't give up; you may wish to try again in Year 9 or I am sure you will all secure places at the best school for you.

It is at this time of year that I am happy to meet with all our Year 6 and Year 7 parents to give advice on next schools. If you would like to have a conversation with me on this topic, please do book in and see me.

You will have seen from this week's Update that we have spent some time as a school looking at our rewards and sanctions policy. I was very pleased to hear from the questionnaire that the vast majority of you are very happy with the standards of behaviour at St. Edward's but as always we are looking

for ways to improve and to ensure that the boys are always fully aware of our expectations and how we encourage and reward excellent conduct and attitude. We benefit from a hugely supportive parent body and I am sure I can rely on your support with this crucial area as we need to ensure that we are teaching the boys in the optimum learning environment possible. We have put together a mnemonic which will be displayed in all the classrooms and that boys will be reminded of on a regular basis.

So we finish the half term with our annual Cross Country run and I look forward to seeing all the boys looking smart in their new style tracksuits and running for their House later today.

I hope you all have an enjoyable break.

Grant Mottram

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YEAR 2 VISIT TO MUSEUM OF RURAL LIFE

On 16th September 2014 Year 2 visited the Museum of English Rural Life in Reading. The Museum is dedicated to the history of the countryside and was established in 1951, at a time when the British countryside was changing rapidly.

We looked at 'Change on the Farm' which mapped the changes in farming over hundreds of years. The boys particularly enjoyed looking at the steam driven tractor and the huge old threshing machine. We enjoyed a presentation on the evolving of the plough and were able to view many different sorts of plough. The wagons were really fascinating and we learned how an old wagon wheel was made. The skill involved was amazing!

We were very interested in the Countryside Cultures section which showed butter churning, cheesemaking, basket weaving, saddlery and metalwork to name but a few. We were treated to a presentation on how barrels were made and were all stunned by the speed and accuracy of the Cooper who was making the barrels.

The collections in the Crafts and Traditions area demonstrated the ways in which materials- clay, straw, wood, leather and metal- had been put to good use. Throughout our visit we were trying to spot grey, white or black rats...strategically placed to catch our eyes! Not real ones of course...

The highlight of the visit was seeing 'The Old Grey Lady' – a Fergie tractor from the 50s which was just like the one Grannie Island uses in the Katie Morag stories which we are using to help us investigate the Island of Coll (Struay) in the Inner Hebrides.

The boys of course were excellent and showed huge enjoyment. The weather was so lovely that we were able to eat our lunch in the garden of the museum. Finally we went shopping and came away with some lovely souvenirs of our visit.

Mrs Daley-Franks



6J JEANS FOR GENES DAY ASSEMBLY

On Friday 19th September, in the 6J assembly we witnessed Spongebob (Daniel Slade) and friends battling to raise money for Jeans for Genes Day so that Plankton (Yuhanis Muneer) did not alter their genetic codes and make all of the residents of Bikini Bottom normal again. The idea from our resident superhero Robert Page-Mason of getting everyone to wear jeans and pay a £1 in order that Mr Mottram would face the ice-bucket challenge helped raise £150. The rest of the money raised was through the sale of the fabulous cakes made and decorated by 6C and 6J as well as the sale of Spongebob keyrings. Also, a special mention should be made of James Perry who raised lots of money selling conkers on the day.

Well, we didn't quite finish the story in the assembly, leaving on a plea for everyone to give generously and explaining to the audience of what the money would be used for.

By the end of the day, we had managed to raise a whopping £340. This stopped Plankton from carrying out his plan and the money has been sent to the Jeans for Genes charity. This donation will be used to help with their work in supporting families with children who suffer from a genetic condition. The amount raised could be used to pay for a seriously ill child to experience a weekend away assisted by trained medical staff. Thank you all for donating kindly to save Spongebob, help unfortunate children and to see Mr Mottram get wet!

D. James

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HARVEST FESTIVAL WITH YEAR 1

Thursday, 25th September was a proud morning for Miss Elwood, Mrs Silcock and myself when our class of 15 boys confidently hosted the school Harvest festival, a mere four weeks after entering Year 1. Well done boys! It was also an informative morning learning all about the work of local, charity Launchpad. Many thanks go to all our parents who kindly sent in a food donation towards our school collection of food in support of this worthy charity. It was also a treat to hear our boys sing so beautifully. Thank you to Mrs Reed for all her work in preparing the boys and a big well done to Keshav Joshi and Jai Mohan for their confident solo performances.

Mrs Moss, Year 1 Teacher



WELL DONE JAMES!

James Leach who plays for Purley Cricket Club was awarded two out of the four available Under 11 end of season trophies. He won All Round Player of the Year and Batsman of the Year for his total of 146 runs. The nearest to him was 54!

Congratulations James!



MATCH REPORTS

U10/11B v St. Andrew's

It was a great sunny day at the IBIS. Two teams took the field with high expectations. Each team fielded eight players and two subs.

The referee blew the whistle and they were off. Both teams were getting chances but were all cut off by the goalie, the defender or just missed the target. The St. Andrew's goalkeeper had the ball and thumped it down the field! It landed in our goalie's box. At this moment everything was tense because it was just going to go into the goal but the keeper was just able to reach for it. By this time they had already scored but about 5 minutes before half time we came back. Then the whistle blew and we all took a break for oranges and a team talk.

The score was 1-1. Everyone was hot and tired by now but neither team stopped trying their hardest. At the beginning of the 2nd half, possession was 50-50, but St. Edward's were starting to make more progress and scored again!

St. Andrew's became more aggressive and they unleashed a blistering shot. St. Edward's hopes were almost dashed but the keeper dived for it with his weaker hand and knocked it out for a corner. After that, no matter how hard St. Andrew's tried they couldn't score and St. Edward's were just able to score again before the whistle blew for full time.

The final score ended 3-1 to St. Edward's. Everybody gave themselves and their team mates a well deserved pat on the back.

U13 v Long Close

A couple of minutes after kick-off, Josh smacked the ball into the top of the net, a great start for St. Edward's! Then we lost focus and started to struggle and the opposition scored so we went into half time with the score 1-1. During half time we talked about how we were going to turn the game around and went back onto the pitch determined to score. And score we did! Three times the ball hit the back of the net in five minutes (two from Josh and one from Hector)

St. Edward's claimed victory with a 4-1 win.

U10/11A

The first game of the tournament we played St. Neot's and won 2-0, Diamond was the scorer. Our next challenge was Waverley and we came out of that victorious as well with a 1-0 win, this time the goal from Joe Pollard volleyed into the top corner.

Dolphin B were next on our list and we continued our winning streak defeating them 3-0 and securing our place in the semi-finals.

Our semi final match went to penalties and again we won 3-2. The final was a different story sadly, but a good all-round performance on the day.

Report by Diamond Edwards and Oliver Langton



MATCH REPORTS CONTINUED

U10/11A v Long Close (A)

The match started at about 3pm at Long Close. The grass was long and the conditions were bad as we had to use flags as goals. There was a bush behind one of the goals and we lost two balls in it!

We started the game with Oliver Langton in goal, Jasper Bromfield and Kelphala Katta at the back in the middle of the park we had Diamond Edwards (Captain). Theo Trood was on the right and Joe Pollard on the left. Shalom Robinson was up front with Anton on the bench. The first half was a very good display and we were 1-0 with a great goal from Diamond Edwards. Diamond was a big threat in the match and in the second half we had a good team goal with Jasper passing to Theo who lobbed four players, delivering a great pass to Joe who made it 2-0. We had a chance to score a couple more goals but they were tipped over by the keeper.

U10/11B v Long Close (A)

The Bs won against Long Close 3-0. Henry, James and Joe scored the goals. The players man of the match was James Leach because he used the ball wisely, creating a few opportunities to score, however, we did hit the woodwork a few times! It was very unlucky for Long Close as they had a few chances but their finishing wasn't as good as it could have been. It was a good, fun game.

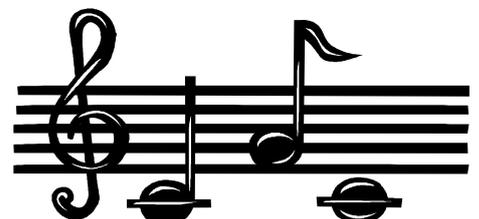


TEN PIECES

Friday 10th October Years 3 and 4 set off in the minibuses for a trip to the cinema in Henley. The film was made by the BBC and called Ten Pieces. It is aimed at the 7 - 11 age group and uses popular children's tv presenters to introduce ten pieces of classical music that have been chosen for their appeal to youngsters. There were witches, trolls, firebirds, planets, sea storms all interweaved with footage of the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra playing in an aircraft hanger which was flooded or lit up red or adapted to the piece they were playing. It was an exciting way to see an orchestra playing because the cameras could pan in on the particular instruments that are showcased at each point in the music. And there was good gender stereotype busting with a huge male flute player and a very pretty and slight female kettledrum player. Most of the music was extremely loud and dramatic but there were also moments of calm, with sunrises, peaceful and

serene. We have been exploring the ten pieces in our class music lessons. Year 3 have made their own recording of a Sea Storm inspired by Benjamin Britten and Year 4 have made one of Mars inspired by Holst's music. There is an excellent website with lots to look at and do, so please encourage your boys to explore it. It was generally agreed that it was a good way to spend a morning and we were back in time for lunch!

Mrs Reed



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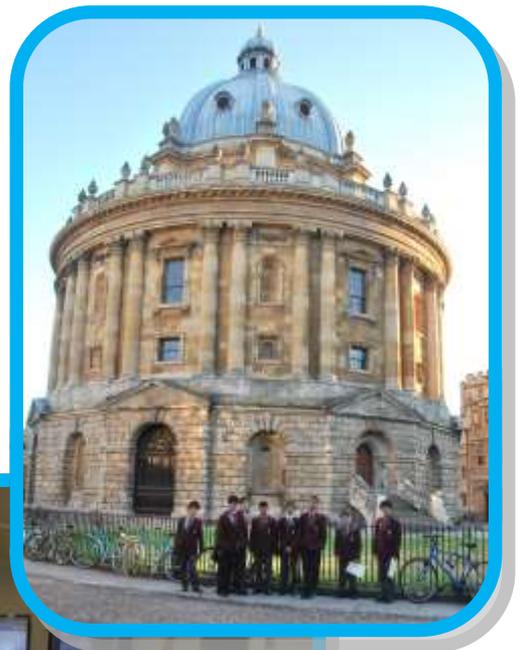
SPACE COMPETITION AT UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

On Saturday 4th October at 7am, (yes, 7am on a Saturday!) the Year 7s and 8s headed to Oxford University. After a short walk where Mr James pointed out Oxford's cultural highlights such as the telephone box, that himself and 7 other students managed to squeeze into, we arrived at the Earth Sciences building. We were introduced to the task of planning the building of a lunar settlement for 1000 tourists. The year 7s and 8s were split up to form 2 groups with 2 girls from Non-such School in Surrey joining the four year 8s. They set to work with 6 hours to complete their mission. The time whizzed by and then the groups had to present their proposal on a powerpoint to some judges.

At the end of the competition, both of the teams had to introduce their presentations to the judges. They then had to face some tough questions and an agonising wait for the results and feedback. The judges, unlike the judges from X-factor, liked both presentations. There could only be one winner and the winning team was announced as "Lunar Settlement" featuring Arturo, Siddharth, Fahed and Oliver Silcock. Edible prizes were awarded to all.

After the competition, the boys were treated to a different walk through Oxford. Unfortunately, Mr James' old college was closed due to a college ball going on (trust him to go to the party college) so he could not show them inside it. However, we saw the Radcliffe Camera where we took a group photo. Fortunately, we were able to see inside the quads of Jesus College and Christchurch College, which was the college where the dining hall was used in the filming for Harry Potter. We arrived back at school after 7pm and we all went home for a well-earned rest ... well, I did anyway. Thanks to the boys for giving up their Saturday to work hard and thanks to the parents for dropping them off that early in the morning!

D. James



SMOOTHIE MAKING IN YEAR 2

In Year 2 we have been studying Health and Growth including healthy eating.

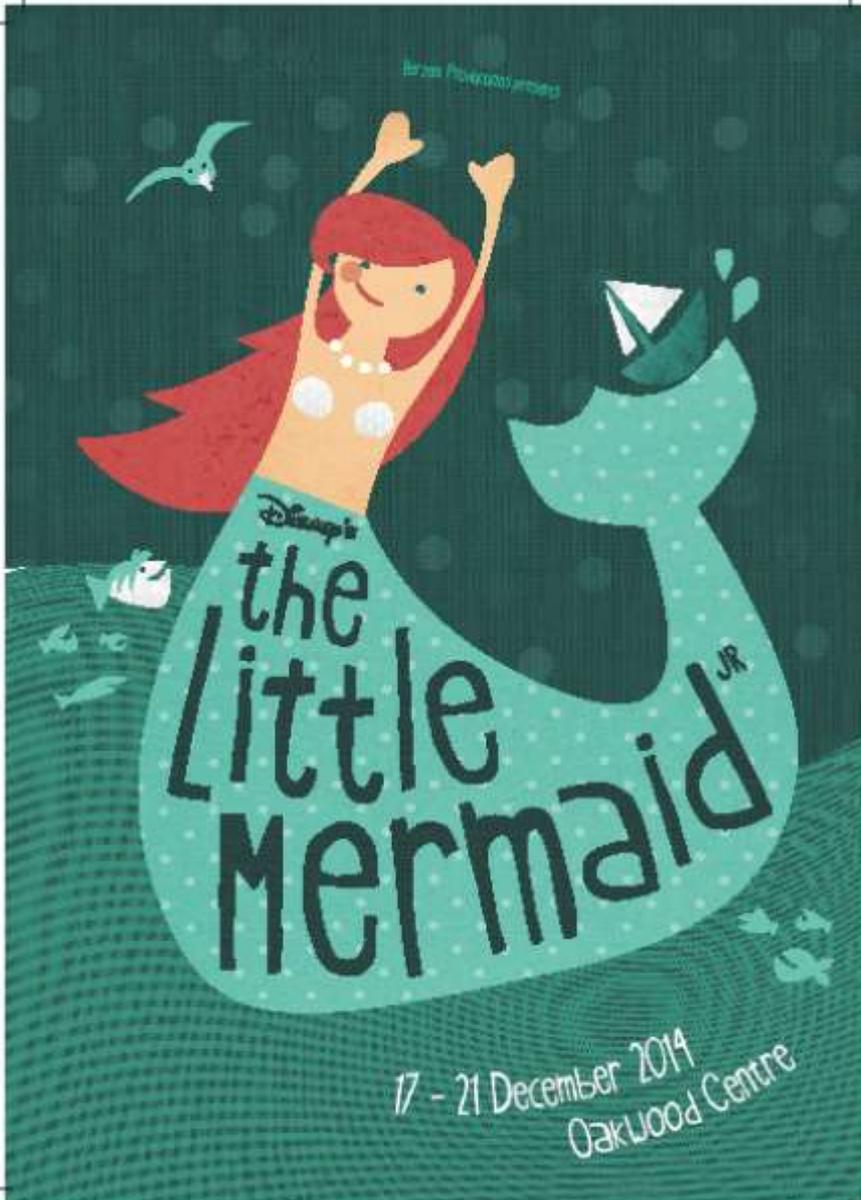
In Design Technology, we designed a delicious smoothie drink by working out which soft fruits we enjoyed and what liquid base they could be mixed up into. We also worked out what equipment would be needed (a blender). The designs ranged from strawberries mixed with milk, blueberries and raspberries mixed with ice cream, milk and a touch of honey and bananas in milk with a pinch of sugar. The boys had a wonderful time chopping fruit and pulling green stalks off strawberries before measuring the ingredients into the blender. The most interesting thing was seeing what colour the drink turned when blended!

Photographs were taken of that first sip. Either 'yum!' or 'hmmm...' Some drinks were modified by adding a little extra sugar or honey and seemed to go down really well! If you would like a delicious recipe for a fruit smoothie just ask a Year 2. Comments ranged from 'weird' to 'quite nice' 'delicious' and 'amazing'.

Mrs Daley-Franks

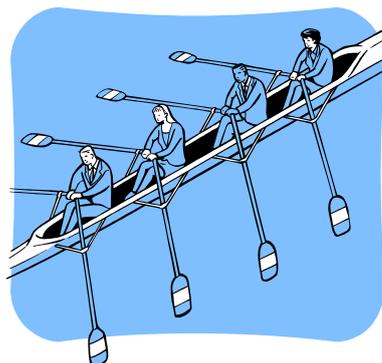


BERZERK NEWS



The School drama club providers are back with the premiere of “ The Little Mermaid” With 30 young people from across their school and private classes performing this musical for the first time in Berkshire. The Oakwood Centre, Woodley 17th – 21st December 2015. Perfect immersive family entertainment for the ages 3 to 100. This classic Disney story will enchant the young and old. With the last show already sold out, don't wait to come and see why Berzerk stand out from the crowd in providing a Christmas production like no other! We trust you can support our students in watching this production and helping Berzerk by spreading the word. Box office - <http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/berzerkproductions> - As Part of “Make Reading” we are also providing our Father Christmas experience on the 29th and 30th November at The Town Hall, Reading from 11am – 6pm. Full information can be found here - <https://www.facebook.com/events/1509963945927273/> – Perfect crafty Christmas offerings for the ages 3 to 10 and all those believers! We would love to see you at our production or experience. Any questions about Berzerk please mail info@berzerkproductions.com

ALUMNI NEWS



James Little, a Sixth Former in Faber House, is a keen sportsman. As a squash player he recently entered the Berkshire U19 County Squash Championships and was runner up. As a rower James has been selected for the GB Rowing World Class Start Programme involving some intensive training, most of it taking place at Caversham. This is a recruiting programme set up by GB Rowing where rowers are required to attend Start Testing Camps throughout the year. This is a great chance for James and the The Oratory School wishes him well.