



Junior School Events & Achievements

Issue 3 September 2010



Welcome to Events & Achievements

I hope you enjoy reading about some of the events organised for the pupils in the Junior School and will join us in congratulating the girls on their successes as you learn of their many achievements over the last year. We continue to develop the opportunities available for the children both in and out of the classroom in order to try and ensure that we offer the best all-round provision a girl can experience. We are all very proud of them. Very well done, girls, staff, mums and dads, keep up the good work!

Andrew M Noakes

Head of Junior School
Andrew Noakes

Out and About

There have been a wide variety of trips across the year groups to enhance and enrich the curriculum. Our Nursery girls enjoyed a day out at Delapre Abbey Park and regularly go on an adventure to the 'Wild Area' in the school grounds. Year 1 and 2 spent an informative day at the Think Tank learning new facts about animals in the interactive galleries and watching a 3D film called Wild Safari. Year 3 girls visited the Roman Museum and Archaeological Site at Piddington. The girls had a wonderful day enjoying a range of museum activities. They also had a chance to dig in a particular area of the site and among the treasures found were flints, bones, fossils and some pieces of Roman pottery.



Year 4 had a most successful visit to Burwell House, the first time for some girls away from home. The weather was superb and enhanced all the outdoor activities, which included environmental art, mini-beast hunting, pond dipping, orienteering and a delightful, long walk to Wickham Fen and back. Year 4 also had a day out to Sulgrave Manor to learn more about Tudors and Tudor Life. An eventful day of dancing, sailing on the Spanish Armada and finding out about life as a rich and poor member of the household.

Year 5 enjoyed a day of fun activities to do with the river at Everdon Activity Centre. Working in small groups the girls measured how fast the stream was flowing, drew a meander in the river, very carefully measured the depth of the stream and tried their hand at stream dipping.

Year 6 experienced the challenges and excitements of four nights away at an Activity Centre on the Isle of Wight. They also had a very interesting visit to the Guildhall in Northampton following an invitation from the Mayor. On arrival they were taken to the parlour for a talk before a tour which started in the Great Hall and included the Council Chamber and even a visit to the dungeons!

Two Junior School girls, Poppy O'Sullivan and Anya Douras, were lucky enough to be invited to attend a special lunch with HSBC executives at their Head Office at Canary Wharf. This was because the sport featured in Poppy's presentation at the Year 5 Hobbies Day formed part of our successful bid for HSBC funding to support a Junior School Sports Outreach

programme. The girls were also able to tour the HSBC building, the second highest in the country, and to experience the wonderful views of London from the 41st floor.



Star Performers

The Junior Guitar Ensemble took part in the Northampton Music Festival. The ten girls from Years 5 and 6 played a piece called 'Mantelito Blanco'. The adjudicator said "this started off strong, secure, energetic and animated. All the things needed for a successful performance". Which it was – the girls were awarded first place! Following this success they were invited to perform in the winner's concert at Spinney Hill Theatre, a great opportunity for the girls who rose to the occasion and played beautifully.



This year's Year 5 and Year 6 production was a delightful adaptation of Shakespeare's 'The Tempest', which the girls performed to very appreciative audiences. The acting, singing and dancing were all of a very high standard.

Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 performed extremely well in their Christmas production of 'Donkey for Sale'. It was wonderful to see children of this age singing, acting and dancing so confidently and with such enthusiasm and enjoyment. The KS2 Carol service on the theme of 'Christmas around the world' was a happy and colourful occasion.

Welcome visitors

Girls in Year 2 and Year 3 had the opportunity to work with artist in residence, Angie Rogers, creating a 'Wild Collage'. The girls visited the wild area and made sketches inspired by the beautiful plants and trees on an exceptionally fine day. Back in the classroom they worked individually and in groups on pieces for a large collaboration collage which now has pride of place in the Junior School Hall.



The yellow bus 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle' and the Waste Education Team enabled the girls to learn more about how we can reduce packaging on food, reuse items such as making butterfly feeders from old milk bottle tops and maximise the amount of recycling we do.

A visit from Maureen Basford captivated the girls in Nursery and Reception who watched a display and learnt about owls, as part of their Autumn topic.



For history, the Kettering Museum 'Outreach Service' helped the Year 2 girls to be Tudor Detectives, while Year 4 and 6 were entertained by 'Tempus Fugit' on the themes of Egyptians and Evacuees.



Two representatives of the Young Enterprise Company came in for Young Enterprise Day to teach Year 6 about trading using a series of games. An opportunity for the girls to work as a team and get a taste for business.

Junior School and Upper Third girls were treated to an uplifting Samba workshop by Alan Kirkland from 'Toe-Tapping Music'. Vibrant rhythms, Brazilian percussion instruments and lots of sound were the order of the morning! Girls learnt a variety of patterns which combined to create an exciting ensemble.



Busy Girls!



Everyone took part in the RSPB Big Schools' Bird watch, an annual survey, which helps the RSPB to monitor UK bird numbers.

The Year 5 Hobbies Convention drew a big crowd of visitors who went around all of the stands at which the girls presented their hobbies ranging from rugby to cookery. There were imaginative and colourful displays and activities and tasty treats to sample.



The Talent Show was a further opportunity for the girls to show off their performance skills and they kept the audience well entertained with their comedy sketches, dance, gymnastics and singing. A very hard job for the judges to choose a winner with Samantha Nelson, Daisy Lambert, Georgia Young and Georgina Oakley being prize winners.

The School community

Friends of Northampton High School have organised a number of events during the year for us all to enjoy. The Hollywood meets Bollywood evening saw a dazzling array of outfits when East met West, on the Red Carpet. One of the highlights of the event were the Bollywood dance routines so expertly presented by Shona Shah, L4 who then engaged the girls by teaching them two dances. With bindis, bangles, "tattoos", an art table, food and a professional photographer on offer the girls all had a night to remember. The Spring Fayre was well attended with a great variety of stalls and an Easter Bonnet Parade and both Junior and Senior girls enjoyed the FoNHS picnic.



Prize Winners

Following on from the Year 3 visit to Piddington we were delighted to welcome Mr and Mrs Taylor from Piddington Roman Museum to an assembly where they presented prizes to four Year 4 girls, for work which they had done about the visit to the museum in the summer term. Hannah Delahunty, Kate Jameson, Emma Rayif and Tarah Smith were each given a lovely book about the Romans or about Archeology.



Many congratulations to our Continuation Scholarship winners now in Year 6 Julia Wardley-Kershaw and Sudakshina Basu. We are also delighted that two girls have been awarded scholarships into senior school, Annabel Nicholson gained an Academic Scholarship and Phoebe Ellis a Sport Scholarship.



Twelve girls from Years 4, 5 and 6 visited 'Roobarb and Kustard' ceramics café to paint special clock numbers on to plates. The girls' designs had been chosen as a result of winning a competition and their plates have now been fired and wall mounted with a clock mechanism to give us a lovely new feature for the Junior School entrance hall. We were delighted to welcome Kylie from Roobarb and Kustard who came to see the new clock and presented prizes for the winning entry designed by Georgina Beeby while Isabel Parker and Tina Etemadi were runners-up.



Offering more



Our enrichment programme has continued to be a great success this year with our own girls as well as girls from local schools taking part in Science and Sports Enrichment Days.

On Science Day over 100 girls from other schools and our Year 5 had the opportunity to explore the science facilities of the Senior School and take part in lots of exciting experiments. They made clappers, flinkers, bursting bombs, vehicles and lava lamps, all in the name of science! A visit from 'Wild Britain' showed some unusual and interesting creatures such as Madagascan cockroaches and the dreaded tarantula.

Sports Enrichment Day for Year 4 and girls from local schools enabled the girls to benefit from coaching sessions with visiting professionals: Rob Hardwick, ex- England rugby player and Sarah Brimyard, National League Hockey player. The girls also experienced badminton and swimming coaching before enjoying a picnic lunch.



Year 5 also enjoyed a Design and Technology morning based on a Victorian theme with the opportunity to explore the Senior School DT department and benefit from the fantastic resources and DT staff expertise. They created Victorian puzzles and bonnets and made peppermint creams.

For a good cause

Nursery and Toddler Group once again participated in the 'Toddle Waddle' in support of Meningitis Trust. The dull showery weather did not deter an enthusiastic crowd of little walkers who walked bravely through the drizzle, around the marked route along the back of the Junior School and ended up back in the building where they were rewarded with drinks and sandwiches. Well done to all who took part and raised £450 for this worthwhile cause.



In February the pupils and staff were spurred on by a group of mums to raise money for the Haiti appeal and raised a magnificent £2376.18 with their 'Give with Love to Haiti' fundraising campaign which included a mini fete and cake sales.

The Junior School had a wonderful day raising money for Children in Need. All responded to the challenge to 'Do Something Different' and paid for the pleasure of wearing pyjamas to school for the day! School Council worked hard at raising additional money by encouraging everyone to have a go at guessing the number of sweets, guessing the name of Pudsey's friend or designing new pyjamas for Pudsey. As part of Hobbies Day, some girls in Year 5 baked and sold a delicious selection of cakes and fudge raising almost £60. In total we raised an amazing £750: a very big thank you to all who were involved in the day and for the generous donations.



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