



Dear Parents

Friday 2nd October 2020

This week, Prep pupils elected their Chair of the new School Council, using the alternative vote system. The four candidates gave fantastic [speeches](#) (you will need your child's Firefly login to view these) and our congratulations to the winner Grace, whose policies ranged from food to fundraising for future development.



Pre Prep children enjoyed an assembly about smiling, kindness and laughter, while Bird families explored seeing things from others' point of view. Reception children have had a colour themed week and were captivated by Mr Chapman's science, colour and magic show on Wednesday morning. Children also created some colourful ice volcanoes outside and looked like proper scientists as they dissolved skittles of different colours in test tubes.



Headmaster's Assembly included two beautiful flute performances by Priya and Harriet playing *Cockles and Mussels* and Telemann's *Vivace* respectively. The main theme was how research into what contributes to well-being aligns to key elements of Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Buddhism. Earlier in the week, Mr Buck led a fascinating assembly about how technology, creativity and art go hand-in-hand and we enjoyed seeing the most expensive painting by a living artist.



We saw the artistic ability of Prep pupils in numerous impressive entries to the House Shield competition. The four winners (see the bulletin) look fantastic! Ranworth were convincing winners of this week's sticker competition and we also enjoyed the first part of the House Film Quiz on Thursday as well as congratulating Upton intermediates on their House cricket win and Ranworth and Filby on their joint junior victory. Amy in Year 6 showed artistic talent of a different sort in her impressive performance of [Hide and Seek](#) by Vernon Scannell, filmed in the School grounds to celebrate National Poetry Day.



Elsewhere this week, I have seen Year 5 making fan-powered cars in DT, striking poses in drama and creating xylophone music in music lessons. Year 1 children enjoyed making their *Funny Bones* puppets and performing their own versions of the story to their classmates. Year 2 were practising tennis skills, Year 7 playing water polo in swimming and Year 4 dyeing cloth with berry juice. Some Little Acorns had two visits to the sports hall this week, making the most of this space, and I saw them tidying up brilliantly before lunch earlier. Hedgehogs have been their theme and they also picked apples in the grounds, planted seeds and made prints from them. Reception were mastering the number 5 with the help of a greedy hen in Lego maths, who will only eat worms exactly five studs long!



We enjoyed meeting Year 8 parents for our Zoom parents' evening, with a good number also dropping into my open Zoom meeting. Next week we look forward to Pre Prep settling in parents' evenings, again on Zoom. We are also really looking forward to 3SP's class assembly next Wednesday, though we are sorry that parents cannot attend live as usual. Instead, we will be filming the assembly with the remainder of Year 3 as a live audience and sharing this with 3SP parents as soon as possible afterwards. Next week also sees the first A2L grades of the year for Prep pupils, with a letter explaining these on the Portal this week. We also have HPC vaccinations for boys and girls in Year 8.



We are not going ahead with the planned open morning next Friday but instead offering individual tours to prospective families so that we can ensure safety and segregation. There are no remaining spaces in Nursery, Reception or Year 1 this year for those not already registered but some availability still for September 2021. Do encourage prospective families you may know to contact [Mrs Jones](#) for details.

I wish everyone an enjoyable weekend.

With best wishes