

A word from the Headmistress

On Tuesday, the School kitchens received an unannounced visit from the Environmental Health Officers whose job it is to ensure we are following food law.

Within their inspection criteria, there are four key areas they look at: the premises; the kind of food made and prepared; how staff work and the food safety management system.

I am delighted to announce that we have received the highest rating of five stars. This is testament to the hard work carried out behind the scenes by the kitchen staff. Well done everyone!

Mrs Denise Toms



Year 5 pupils Anna Gibbens, Eleanor Witt and Rosie Brookes raised £35 for Ncemaneni School by busking at the Christmas market. Despite the snow, the market was very well attended and a substantial amount of money was raised. We will be bringing you the grand total next week. Watch this space!

★ CELEBRATING OUR SUCCESSES ★

Congratulations to this week's Prep School Stars of the Week:

3A - Lily McEwan-Showell; 3P - Tilly Nash; 4H - Abigail Culwick; 4T - Robert Shepherd and Jack Blakeway; 5FJ - Olivia Leung; 5R - Charlotte Field; 6L - Alfie Wilkinson; 6B – Thomas Smith; 7F - Laura Arundale; 7D – James Dunn; 8M - William Bayliss; 8C - Kayla Newton.



PREP SCHOOL NEWS

We enjoyed a fantastic Celebration Assembly this week. We always sing 'Happy Birthday' to the birthday children and staff every week; however, this week Year 5 led the whole school singing in Spanish! We also celebrated the success of our Year 4 mathematicians in the King Edward's Maths Challenge. Mr Brinkley announced the start of the Winterfold Young Apprentice initiative, open to Years 6 and above, and challenged them to raise money for our sister school, Ncemaneni. Miss Florida-James also announced the start of the new Winterfold Maths Challenge competition, which is open to all years. Five Year 5 children gave us a performance of their season haiku poems.

On Thursday and Friday this week, Year 7 and Year 8 Drama took part in a fantastic lighting workshop; Penryn Hall has never looked so space age! In our work, Year 5 have been writing monologues, Year 7 have been writing flame poems and Year 8 have been developing research skills to compare natural disasters in different countries.

Congratulations to Kites who are this week's winners of the Pack competition.

Next week, we look forward to welcoming Claudia Finlayson, our fifth gap student from Australia who should be arriving in the UK this weekend. Please can I also remind you that it is Open Morning next Saturday (3rd February) and all children from Year 5 are expected to be in School.

Sports News

On Tuesday, our Junior girls enjoyed their first netball fixtures of the season against RGS The Grange. We had to move indoors due to the weather but they were both lovely games played in great spirit, with lots of sideline coaching going on.

All of the boys in Years 3 and 4 were involved in matches this week against The Downs Malvern and Tettenhall. All of the games were close, competitive, matches enjoyed by everyone. It is good to see our younger children starting to put into practice the skills that they are learning in their games sessions and I am sure that they will continue to develop throughout the season.



Unfortunately, our Wednesday fixtures had to be cancelled due to the inclement weather. We are hoping to find another date for the Matty Thacker Shield later in the term.

In other news this week, our skiers enjoyed their final lesson at the Snowdome on Monday. They all managed to ski from the top of the slope and were seen cruising down the piste (mostly in control!), whilst making some lovely snowplough turns.

Next week, we have netball and football fixtures against RGS The Grange and The Downs Malvern and we wish our teams all the best of luck.

Music News

A reminder that on Friday 2nd February, all pupils from Years 5, 6 and the Orchestra will be travelling to hear the CBSO play in the Symphony Hall. Children should wear blazers and bests.

Chapel News

For the last two weeks, Year 7 have each had their own form Chapel Mass. With the awful virus that has been going around, there have been absences or children present but without voice! I would like to thank and congratulate them (and their form tutors who must be rather proud of them) for their excellent conduct, reading, singing and most importantly, listening. They will know what I mean when I say, "Listen, if you have ears!"

PRE-PREP NEWS

Early Years

Reception children have continued with their topic on 'Recycling' and carried out a variety of activities. They have used packaging and packets to create observational paintings of rubbish! To consolidate their understanding of looking after the environment, they have listened to the stories of 'Michael Recycle' and 'Litterbug Doug'.

On Wednesday, the children had a very important assembly with Mrs Toms about 'The Creation' and they recorded the story in their books with some lovely illustrations. Kindergarten 2 this week has gone 'under the sea' with lots of creative activities using different techniques. The role-play area in Kindergarten 1 has become a Space Centre and children have used their mark making skills to write instructions on how to launch a rocket!

Key Stage 1

This week, Discover History visited Years 1 and 2 to bring life to their topics of 'Explorers' and the life and times of Florence Nightingale. The children travelled back in time; Year 1 became sailors on-board Columbus' ship and the Year 2s visited Scutari Hospital.

The Explorer Day looked at different parts of the ship, types of jobs on board and the food and living conditions. The Year 2s followed Florence Nightingale's Victorian timeline, culminating in a fabulous team effort comparing the living conditions and medical practices during the Crimean War.



NURSERY NEWS

This week, the Babies have been finger painting, making woolly hats and welly boots, as well as having some relaxing time in the sensory room, and some rather noisy music sessions.

The Tweenies have done lots of free painting as we are encouraging the children's mark making. They have also enjoyed some lovely shredded paper play, and walks outdoors jumping in muddy puddles.

The Toddlers are carrying on their colour and shape theme with some lovely painting, gluing and colouring. They have also been on some lovely walks looking out for all the different shapes in nature.

NOTICES AND GENERAL INFORMATION



February Half Term Holiday Clubs

The booking forms for Early Years, Fun Club and iQ Sports have been sent out this week and are available on the School website and in Reception.
<https://www.winterfoldhouse.co.uk/school-life/holiday-clubs/>