



St Andrew's School Bedford

e-newsletter June/July 2011

Speech and Drama Celebration

Year 5 and 6 Excel in Alice in Wonderland



Sylvie and Abigail in Year 6 perform 'Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker' by Roald Dahl.



Year 5 and 6 entertained an audience of parents and friends with their fantastic performance of Alice in Wonderland.

The girls excelled themselves in learning the dialogue and songs of this complex and sophisticated show. They performed with great confidence and gusto.

Alice's adventures feature a wide range of strange fantasy characters and the girls created them effectively with their voices and movements.

They received a rapturous reception from the appreciative audience.

At the end of the last performance the girls thanked all the people who had helped them create the performance; Mr Farnsworth, Mrs Backhurst, Mrs van der Sande, Mrs Moody, Mrs Young, Mrs Johni and Mr Hearn.

On Thursday 23 June the Speech and Drama department held a celebration of the boys' and girls' work.

The pupils prepare poems and dramatic scenes for LAMDA examinations and for the Bedford Festival. The celebration evening was an opportunity for parents, family and friends to enjoy these performances and the talents of the pupils.

Everyone was impressed with the confidence of the youngest performers from Year 1. The pupils in the other years performed with great expression and impact. Special mention must go to our two LAMDA Silver Medal performers, Grace and Bethany in Year 10.

Our thanks go to our Speech and Drama teachers, Mrs Williams and Mrs Curzon for their teaching through out the year and for organising such an enjoyable evening.

If you would like your son or daughter to start Speech and Drama lessons, please contact the school office for details.

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GCSE Art Show



The GCSE Private View was held on Thursday 17 June in the Old Hall.

The work of all the GCSE candidates was displayed for parents, friends and guests to view.

The variety and quality of work was amazing. As well as the finished pieces, the pupils' sketch books were displayed, showing how their inspiration and how their ideas developed.

Congratulations to the girls and to Mrs Chaplin on a fantastic show.



Tate Britain Masterclasses

This term a number of girls had the opportunity to attend Art Masterclasses at Tate Britain in London.

'It was great fun at Tate Britain, learning the basics of a piece of art work and finally producing I was proud of. I got to see inside William Turner's diary to see his mini sketches and compare them to his masterpieces. I go to try crazy techniques like ten second sketches and drawing with your left hand!' The experience was amazing and I would love to do it again.'

Olivia , Year 7

Summer Prize Giving



The new Head Girl team with our special guest, Mrs Toni Moore.

Prize Giving on Wednesday 6 July was the first we have held in the summer, marking the end of the school year.

The prizes were presented by Mrs Toni Moore, founding partner of Adams Moore Solicitors and Nat West Business Woman of the Year in 2010.

Mrs Moore spoke about passion, purpose and perseverance, the three qualities which have shaped her life.

Mr Sanders, the Chair of Governors welcomed everybody and Mr Skehan reviewed the year, reflecting on how St Andrew's had changed since the Year 11 leavers joined the school, some of them thirteen years ago in the Nursery.

The evening included performances from the Year 5 and 6 choir, the Senior Choir and a clarinet solo from Megan in Year 11.

Holding the ceremony in the summer term also allowed us to have a formal hand over of the Head Girl responsibilities, badges of office and sashes.

The Year 11 girls were presented with their records of achievement and wished well as they embark on the next stage of their education.



St Andrew's Parents' Association News

Roller Disco

As a thank you to the girls and parents, the St Andrew's Parents' Association hosted a Roller Disco in the New Hall on Sunday 12 June.



Boys and girls from across the school enjoyed the chance to roller skate and have fun with their friends. Thank you to Lisa Harrington for the idea and the organisation.

Fashion Show

The fashion show held on Thursday 26 May was a great success and raised £250. Thank you to all who attended and to Lisa Harrington for organising the event.

Discos—Thank you

A big thank you to the Association and in particular Mrs Baccarella for the discos they have run this year for children in Years 1 to Year 8. They are greatly enjoyed by all the girls and boys.

Library Gift

This year the St Andrew's Parents' Association gift to the school has been over one hundred and sixty new books to add to our library collection. The annual parent subscription to the Association was allocated to this donation, which benefits all of the pupils in the school.



Thanks to the Association for their generosity.

Future Dates

AGM –Tuesday 6 September 2011 at 19.00

Grand Christmas Fayre -
Saturday 26 November 2011



Meet the Governors

- a monthly column introducing the School's Governing body with topics of interest.

Mary Burt: Chair of the Development Fund

Mary's twin daughters Grace and Helena attended St Andrew's, leaving two years ago. Having been on the Development Fund and Marketing Committee for nearly six years Mary became a Governor two years ago and now chairs the Development Fund. Her background is in journalism, marketing and career management.

St Andrew's is a very special place; it has helped my girls to gain confidence and the skills for independent learning. Careful nurturing helped them grow in every sense, preparing them for the future and making them blossom into responsible young adults. Their happiness and love for St Andrews's was infectious and I soon knew that I too must be involved with the place which after home was so important to them, so my association with the Development Fund started.

The Development Fund has now been going for some forty years to fund capital projects. Our current goal is £30,000 to refurbish the Science Lab. So far we have raised £9,000. Fundraising is hard work, challenging but never dull! We hold a variety of events. All of course rely on your support be it behind the scenes planning or participation. I do want to take this chance to thank all of you for your support to date and hope we can count on you in the future. The biennial School Ball in 2012 will be in the summer.

We are constantly looking out for new fundraising ideas so if you have some or could offer expertise in a field you think might be helpful or would like to join the Committee please contact us. We are keen to involve the whole school community. We meet about every two months, are a friendly bunch and would welcome new faces.

St Andrew's School Development Fund

A date for your diary

Summer Ball

Saturday 30 June 2012

Library News



Dear Parents, Pupils and Staff

We are nearing the end of term and I wanted to say a huge Thank You for all your support this year for the school Library.

Your Parents' Association has donated over 160 books to the Library. You have bought over 70 books from the Puffin Book Club. You have donated 30 DVD's and Videos. You have earned 4 books from the Nestle Box Tops for Books scheme.

This has given our Library a boost of over 264 new items in our Library this year!

This is over £2000.00 of resources for your girls!

Our Staff team have also been donating books from home and their classroom stocks, which is great too.

Have a great summer.

Kind regards

Mrs C Grimes
Librarian

Things to do in the Summer Holidays

The summer holidays are here bringing your children weeks of free time and opportunities for relaxation and fun. But once the initial euphoria of freedom has faded will you be faced with those familiar refrains, "What are we doing today?" or "I'm bored"?

If you're looking for inspiration GSA Heads have come up with a list of **38 Things To Do Before You Go Back To School**

www.mydaughter.co.uk/

Learning Support Department On the Move

Coinciding with the arrival of the new Head of the Department, the Senior School Learning Support Department has moved into two new rooms.

These are bright and spacious, and each is equipped with a computer on which specialist programs can be run.

New Head of Department, Ann Hepher, is very pleased with them. She says, "A peaceful and attractive environment is very important for pupils who need to use all their powers of concentration to tackle learning challenges. These new facilities are amongst the best of any school in Bedford, and will greatly help the Department support those pupils with dyslexia, dyspraxia and other specific learning difficulties."

Reading Champions Lead the Way in the Junior School



The Junior School Reading Champions share books and stories with younger members of the Junior School.

The older Juniors dedicate part of each Friday

lunchtime to sharing books with younger pupils.

Year 2 Enjoy Pirate Day



As part of their Geography Work this term, Year 2 enjoyed a pirate day.

The children developed a range of Geography

skills, including how the landscape is represented on a map and map symbols.

Junior and Senior Concerts International Evening



The end of the summer term was marked by the Junior and Senior School concerts.

The Junior School concert featured singing from the Year 3 and 4 choir, a performance by the Junior String ensemble and a number of solos and duets from the wide range of instrumentalists in the Junior School.



In the Senior School concert there were performances from the Senior Choir, the orchestra, the String ensemble,

the Saxophone, Clarinet and Flute groups as well as solos and duets.

Congratulations to all the girls who took part and out thanks to Mrs Backhurst and Mrs Truncheon for leading the music making in the concert and throughout the year.



Second Life of Bread and International Evening Recipe Book

If you would like to purchase a recipe book supporting our fund raising for Africa, please contact the school office.



The Year 8 International Evening was held on Thursday 30 June.

Year 8 spent most of the day cooking lots of excellent food for their parents

and guests. The food was a result of research into recipes from different countries. They had made leaflets about these countries, created art pieces and researched renewable energy sources and eco houses for an excellent display in the new hall.

Having enjoyed the excellent food the parents were treated to Powerpoint presentations and speeches with lots of ideas about how to save energy and what futuristic houses might look like.



This linked to the Comenius eEnergies Project. For the last two years we have worked closely with schools in Belgium, Denmark, Exeter and Hungary, exchanging energy saving ideas across Europe.

Parents and guests also had the opportunity to purchase a recipe book containing recipes and photos from the International Day and 'A second life of bread' recipes from all the Comenius countries. The book cost £ 2.50 and we raised £80. This sum, together with money raised in the other Comenius countries, will be used to buy solar panels for countries in Africa.

Year 6 Enjoy Travelling Back to the 1960s



As part of their work on Britain since 1948, Year 6 travelled back in time.

They have each been working on aspects of life, fashion and industry and how they have changed over the past five decades. This has included primary and secondary research, interviewing parents and grandparents as well as using books and the internet.

This all came together in an afternoon extravaganza. This included food, activities and music from the 1960s to the present day, all set up in the Year 6 classrooms.

Parents' wardrobes have been raided in order to supply the children with a range of 'fashionable' items from various decades.

Even Mrs Moody and Dr Pacini got into the swing of things with wonderful costumes of their own.

Junior and Senior Sports Day



This year's Junior and Senior Sports Day at the International Sports Stadium was a huge success.

The field and track events were closely contested in a spirit of health competition. A number of record distances and times were set in year groups and across the school.

At the end of the afternoon Stuart House was the winner in both the Junior and Senior competitions.

Medals and certificates were presented in the Sports Award Ceremonies at the end of term.

Congratulations to all the girls who took part. Our thanks go to the PE department and in particular Ms Pearce for organising the Junior events and Mrs Bassett-Gilham for organising the Senior events.



Key Stage One Sports Day

This year the Sports day for Reception, Years One and Two took place on a very cloudy afternoon.

Family and friends came to support and cheer on the house teams and lend out umbrellas! Events included the egg and spoon race, obstacle race and throwing the beanbag.

The children carried on until eventually rain really did stop play. The heavens opened and everyone retired inside to enjoy refreshments and a chance to dry off!

The winning team was Stuart House and they were awarded the Sports Trophy decked in their house colours.

