



St Andrew's School Bedford

e-newsletter May 2011

Moving Trip to Ypres



On Friday 20 May, a party made up of Year 9 students and sixteen adults, began a long coach journey to Belgium to visit sites associated with World War I. The group visited:

Sanctuary Wood – an area which contains original World War I trenches.

Tyne Cot – the largest British and Commonwealth war grave cemetery in the world. It was in this cemetery that students left flowers as a tribute to the fallen.

Langemarck – a German cemetery, the only one in the Ypres area.

Essex Farm – this is where the poem 'In Flanders Field' was written by Captain John McCrae. This year the poem was read by a relative of Captain McCrae, our English and Drama teacher Mrs Williams.

Reservoir Cemetery – this cemetery contained the grave of Harry Ayling, a relative of one of the Year 9 students, Georgia, and her grandparents who accompanied her on this visit. Georgia's grandfather paid a moving tribute to Harry Ayling, by his graveside.



Later the St Andrew's group witnessed the famous Menin Gate ceremony. This ceremony is a short memorial service to the 55,000 missing and unidentified men whose names are inscribed on the walls of the huge arch which is the Menin Gate.

Senior Choir performs in Prestigious Voces8 B-Festival



The Senior Choir had the fantastic experience of singing in the final concert of the B-Festival at Bedford School.

Sharing the stage with professional singing group Voces8, the Senior Choir sang two beautiful love songs.

As part of the preparation for the concert, two of the Voces8 singers led singing workshops with the choir. The girls enjoyed this enormously and the benefit they gathered from it showed in their performance.

As a result of performing in the Voces8 B-Festival the school has been presented with honorary membership of the Schools Music Association of Great Britain.

After the concert Mrs Backhurst said, 'I am so proud of the Choir. They sang beautifully.'

The St Andrew's School Development Fund

invites you to

Afternoon Tea

On Friday 1 July 2011 at 14.30

Come and enjoy a traditional afternoon tea and chat with friends

Please pick up a flyer from the Junior and Senior School Reception

Tickets £5

St Andrew's student wins local Art Competition



Olivia's winning entry

Woodfines Solicitors recently ran an Art Competition for schools. The competition was open to all middle and upper schools across Bedford.

The winners were announced at an exhibition at the South Bank Arts Centre, Bedford College.

The winning piece was 'Riverside Flowers' by Olivia in Year 8.

The judges, who included London-based artist William Austin, Bedford-based painter Kristian Purcell, Director of Arts at the South Bank Arts Centre, Sue Blackman, and Woodfines Partner and art-lover Sylvia Goulding, thought that Olivia's piece showed "ingenuity and a true creative talent".



Louise's work

Olivia was awarded a gift voucher worth £100 for the Art Centre on Howard Street, Bedford, and the school received a donation of £250. Olivia's work will also now be displayed in the reception of Woodfines' Bedford office.

A runners up prize was awarded to Louise in Year 9.

The St Andrew's Parents' Association
present

A Roller Disco

Sunday 12 June in the New Hall

Tickets are free!

Please check your email for further details of timings.

Year 10 Students Highly Commended in National Design Competition

Three Year 10 girls have won Bronze Awards in the Starpack School Packaging Design Awards.



Catherine's design

Catherine, Natasha and Olivia were commended by the judges. About Catherine's design they said, 'Well thought out process and imaginative design.'



Natasha's design

They commented that Natasha's idea was 'Challenging to manufacture but an interesting shape with strong graphics.'

For Olivia they said 'Cohesive presentation. Colourful ideas with good annotation.'



Olivia's design

This is a national competition and the brief was to design a new and effective package for a celebration cake that uses cardboard.

Year 3 Trip to the Imperial War Museum

As part of our History topic on World War II, Year 3 spent a most enjoyable and interesting day at the Imperial War Museum. After an exciting train journey, we explored the 'Children's War Exhibition' and 'The Blitz Experience.' These exhibitions recreated what life was like in war time Britain from a child's perspective.



Meet the Governors

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



John Crawford: Vice-Chairman of the Governors

John had two daughters at St Andrew's in the mid 90's and early 00's and his wife, Jane, is a former member of the teaching staff. John is a construction manager for a national Major Contractor and has been a Governor at St Andrews for 4 years.

For many years, St Andrews School has been, for all the girls in my family, a place of nourishment, nurture and happiness. I am therefore pleased to be able to give back to the school that has given us so much, by serving as a Governor.

Each of the Governors is asked to oversee and advise on specific aspects of the school's operations according to their own skills and experience. I assist where I can in the management of ongoing maintenance, repairs, re-ordering and improvements to our existing buildings. In the past year, this has included the moving of Music and Drama into Oakfield and the further development of catering facilities to increase the number of school lunches that can be provided.

In all of this, I would give full credit and thanks to our Estates Bursar, Gerry Sansom and his Site Team for these ongoing improvements whilst also maintaining a very high standard of presentation in all our buildings.

I also keep a watching brief over the School's management of Health and Safety. I am pleased to report a very good culture and awareness within the School's Senior Management Team which, again, is managed extremely effectively by Gerry.

Note: Full profiles of all the Governors can be seen in the Governors' Annual Report.

Year 1 Spring Visit to the Park



This term as part of their science topic of 'Plants', Year One visited Bedford Park to observe and identify some of the trees to be found there.

They found examples of fir, oak, horse chestnut, beech and holly. They identified the trees by their shape, their leaves, their bark and their flowers.

Junior School Masterclass Evening

For one night only, the Junior School took over the Main School Hall and turned it into a working chocolate factory.

For the previous 10 weeks, children had been using their skills and talents to work on aspects of learning associated with the famous Roald Dahl book.



Mr Hearn as Willy Wonka

Highlights included Mr Farnsworth's group who used Flash Animations to produce cartoon sequences on the computer and Dr Pacini's 'Tasting Room'. Unusual drinks and treats were created where nothing tasted as it looked—exactly in the style of Mr Wonka. All the children in Years 3 to 6 were rightly proud of the high quality of their work which all contributed to a quite unforgettable evening.

Nursery Pre-School and Reception Working Together



Den Making

"First we tied string up in the tree and made a washing line to hang the sheets on. We ran in and out of the flaps. It was so windy we used heavy things like logs to hold the edges down on the grass. We took picnic things inside and had stories about animals. The den didn't have a carpet inside so we sat on the grass. The holly leaves were prickly to sit on! We picked daisies and buttercups and put them in our hair. Before we packed up we had orange juice."

Children from our Reception class and Pre-school spent the morning at Milton Ernest garden centre, as part of their Spring and new growth topic.



Terry the gardener showed the children around the plant house and they saw giant strawberry plants, an olive tree with a spiral trunk and herbs with the scent of curry!

The children created their own garden centre back in the classroom and are already growing potatoes, tomatoes and herbs in their garden.

Year 5 and 6 Visit the Land of Oz



Our Year 5 and 6 trip to London was amazing. We got off the coach after 1 hour and 45 minutes of singing and talking excitedly about what it might be like.

We started walking to Regents Park where we were going to have a picnic lunch together. We sat and ate lunch then played for a bit before we headed off for the London Palladium where we were going to watch the Wizard of Oz. We got there and we watched the fantastic play.

Danielle Hope was Dorothy because she won the 'Over the Rainbow' search for Dorothy. The play was one of the most marvellous plays I have ever seen. We trudged back to the coach, sad to leave London, but excited to tell our parents all about the wonderful day we had.

Ayisha, Year 5

My Visit to the Royal Wedding



On Friday 29 April, I travelled to London to see the Royal Wedding with my mum and grandma.

We decided that the best place to stand for the day was Whitehall so we walked until we reached Horse Guards Parade. We chose our spot and I hung a large flag over the railings. We were lucky with our position as some people had camped overnight to get a good view.

Gradually the pavements started to fill up with people and there was lots of chatting and laughing. The policemen were especially friendly and took photos of us all.

Soon the cars full of the Royal Family started to appear. It was very exciting to see Prince William and his brother Prince Harry. At last it was Catherine's turn to come past and I was really excited.

Early Morning Tennis Club



Early morning Tennis is held at the Riverside Tennis Club every Monday morning at 08.00. Girls in Years 5 to 11 are welcome to join. They receive first class coaching from fully qualified coaches. Girls work on their technique and knowledge of the game, as well as playing team games and working on their general fitness.

A current member of the club, Louise in Year 9 said, 'I have been doing Early Morning Tennis since Year 5. I enjoy it because it is fun and I learn something new each week. When I started Tennis I knew nothing about it. Now I know how to score and play the game and I have enjoyed every minute of it.'

If you would like to join us, please contact the PE Department.

Exceptional Achievement in Tae Kwon-Do



Jasmine in Year 7 has become the youngest First Dan Black Belt in Tae Kwon-Do in our region. Congratulations Jasmine.

Jasmine is a member of the Amptill Tae Kwon-Do Club and trains at least twice a week. She took up the discipline five years ago to improve her memory and self confidence.

Once the service had started we were able to listen to it on giant speakers. It wasn't long before we heard that the Royal Party were on their way back from Westminster Abbey in open top carriages. When Catherine and Prince William came past there was lots of screaming and shouting coming from the crowds. My face was full of excitement. I was so happy. Finally, I was really excited to see the Queen and Prince Philip pass us. I was screaming and shouting and waving my flags. A truly memorable day. Sophie, Year 7