



SDC - The Week

12 November 2009

Hecker Success in House Drama

Holly Stratton (13I) reports: "On Friday 6 November, the school gathered to watch the Lower School House Drama pieces, directed by Year 12 students. The four pieces were all of varied subject matter and style.

'Christmas 1914' by Usherwood house was a dramatic reading, where students showed great maturity recounting the tale of the extraordinary Christmas armistice on the battle fields of Ypres, told through the letters of soldiers writing home to loved ones. This relevant piece caused the audience to reflect on the effects of war in the run up to Remembrance Day.

In contrast 'Harry Potter' by Stuart house masterfully condensed all seven Harry Potter books into 10 minutes; the great chemistry within the cast lead to a polished and amusing performance of these famous books, which was greatly enjoyed by the audience.

'Das Bus' by Forder house was a dramatisation of an episode from 'The Simpsons' where the bus drives into the river and the children decide to try and survive on their desert island. Cast members, wearing Simpson's masks, acted very well, using slapstick comedy to great effect.

The overall winner of the competition was 'Cinderz' by Hecker house. An adapted version of the original fairytale 'Cinderella', this piece moved at lightning pace combining humour and wit with effective visuals, to create an innovative version of the fairytale, which was greatly enjoyed by all. Thanks go to the Heads of Houses that supported the



extremely dedicated team of Year 12 students who directed the pieces and to all the students who performed so bravely and to such a high standard. Thanks are also extended to Ms Morrell for judging the event and to Mr Lea, for whom this was his 25th House Drama, for his enduring dedication and enthusiastic organisation of house events." Please see www.stdunstans.org.uk for a full list of winners.

Electrifying Junior School Science Afternoon



Last week two Junior School classes got together to share what they had learnt in their Science topic last half-term, which for both classes was 'electricity'. 2S paid a visit to a 6G class for part of the afternoon. The Year 6 scientists were prepared with their

electric circuits already assembled and the Year 2 children had the task of identifying the various components of a circuit and explaining the function of each to their Year 6 'science buddy'.

The Year 6 children then took on the role of scientific expert and taught the Year 2 pupils an amazing amount of facts relating to electricity. Everyone had a great time and both classes learnt a lot from their joint science lesson. Year 2 has given Year 6 an invitation to visit next term so they can teach them in their classroom.

Here are some quotes from Year 6: "The Year 2's were a bunch of smart scientists and we had lots of fun" - Anjheylica. "A little Year 2 girl came over to us and started to teach me about electricity" - Max. "Year 2 came to visit us for a mini science get together... they are a bunch of young, budding scientists" - Laura. "I hope they enjoyed it as much as we did" - Laurie. "The Year 2's were very good listeners and they paid attention" - Grace.

And from the Year 2 children: “My class went to see Mr Buckle's class because we are learning about electricity and they are as well. I told them all the facts I knew. I liked building the circuits best” - Tarrin. “When we went to Mr Buckle's class I almost answered all of the questions about electricity. I loved doing the circuits and our science was really fun” - Emily. “On Thursday we went to Mr Buckle's class. One of our class worked with one of Year 6 and we used batteries, wires, buzzers and bulbs in lots of different circuits. One Year 6 boy had a magic circuit, then we had a go and I enjoyed that” - Isaac.

Cambridge Schools Debating Competition

Congratulations to Evi Atkinson, Charles Brook, Jo Kelen and Jake Richards on getting through to the next round of the Cambridge Schools Debating Competition in a closely-fought competition at Newstead Wood School for Girls on Thursday 5 November. Fireworks outside were overshadowed by the fireworks inside as both teams put forward solid and convincing arguments, resulting in clear and confident victories. The team are now looking forward to the second Cambridge round, as well as the first round of the Oxford competition.

Year 6 Sponsored Walk

Last Friday a group of unusual characters were seen in the Prep



playground. Who were they? There was a Tree, Punks, Scooby Doo, Bugs Bunny, Pyjama Girls, Vampires and Ghouls, classic book characters, and various other strange beings. It was Year 6 taking part in the annual sponsored fancy dress walk to raise money for Ntinda Primary School in Uganda. One of their classrooms is missing a roof! A prize was awarded to the most original costume and Mr Dickson chose Ellie John who was dressed as a toilet roll.

Cyprus Hockey and Netball Tour

Twenty Senior School girls along with Miss Halfacree and Miss Wilson, visited Cyprus during Exeat for a Netball and Hockey Tour. The girls travelled to their hotel in Limassol and had a relaxing first evening before getting up early the next day for a training session and swim. They then went to St John's School for their first netball match. SDC won both their A and B team matches; 18-10 and 7-6.

The girls spent the following morning at the beach before playing their final netball matches against Foley's School. The A team enjoyed another success winning 19-5. The B team also played well and their final score was 15-12 to Foley's. In the evening there were birthday celebrations for Jess Twist. The next day the girls travelled to Nicosia and enjoyed a tour of the city where they learnt a lot about the history of Cyprus. They then went to the Nicosia Hockey School for their first hockey match, only to find that most of their opponents were boys! This made the girls even more determined to win.



Unfortunately Nicosia won 3-1, but SDC were proud of their performance.

On the final day, the girls played Nicosia local opposition, where this time there

were a lot more girls. In the sweltering heat, the girls had a good game and maintained the majority of possession. The final score was 1-0 to SDC.

The girls returned to the hotel for a swim and dinner before making their way back to the airport. All had a fantastic trip, winning four of their six matches, and are looking forward to the second half of the netball season. See www.stdunstans.org.uk for a full report from the girls.

6F report on Macbeth Drama Workshop

Last Tuesday Year 6 were given a summary of the play *Macbeth*. Two actors from Shakespeare 4 Kidz, David and Valentine, came to show how much fun it could be learning a play.

At the beginning the children had to warm-up their bodies, voices and brains before they got down to the serious task of acting out the play. Parts were given out as the play progressed - Lucas played Macbeth with Ellie as Lady Macbeth. There were props and costumes to enhance the play and everyone put on their best voices for the parts they played, especially the three witches, Maelo, Laura and Katie.

In the play there were many horrible murders but everyone enjoyed it and it helped the children to understand *Macbeth* in a fun way. It is a brilliant play and Year 6 are looking forward to seeing it at the Orchard Theatre this Wednesday.

George Barnes promoted to RSM

Congratulations to George Barnes who was promoted last week to RSM, the highest rank in the Army Section of the CCF. This year's decision was made much harder with a very strong field of cadets, which included Rhys Boxall and George Frewin. As RSM, George is now responsible for all the cadets in the Army Section (over 150 pupils) and he will help plan the exercises for the rest of the year.

The Alternative Christmas Market, Friday 4 December 3.15-5.30pm in the Refectory & Great Hall



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