

HEADLINES

March 2010



The arrival of two babies on 15th March heralded the beginning of Spring. We were delighted to hear that Miss Smith had given birth to Scarlet and Mr Welch was thrilled with the birth of his second son, Jacob. Many, many congratulations to both of them. Mums, dads and babies are all doing well.

Year 6 results this year have been quite outstanding. Academic scholarships have been awarded to more pupils than ever before as have Art, Music and Sport scholarships. We were delighted so many of you visited the Art Exhibition which displayed the work which the children had prepared for their Art scholarships. These successes follow the children's achievements in the Bexley and Kent grammar school exams earlier this year. The number of places offered by Newstead Wood and St Olaves, the most selective of the grammar schools, was also higher than ever before. Credit goes to the children themselves for their sheer hard work, to the parents for their support and to the teaching staff who prepare the children so well. The results are fantastic and unquestionably well deserved.



Year 6 triumphed too, along with Year 5 at the annual **Inter-Schools General Knowledge Quiz** held at Eltham College this year. Congratulations to our representatives, Shefali Chander and Michael O'Connor in Year 6 and Noah Armitage-Hookes and Alex

Parton in Year 5 for winning the competition. Babington House were in second place, Colfe's in third place and Eltham College came fourth.



We have also had a plethora of **sporting highlights** this half of term. Some of the girls went on a trip to the O2 to see England playing Australia in an International Netball Match. We have hosted a Year 6 Boys Football tournament and a Year 6 gymnastics competition. Year 6 girls took part in the annual IAPS netball tournament in Brighton. Mention must be made of our Year 5 netball team who are a formidable side and not only won the Cornflower League but won a major tournament last week at Farrington's against 8 other schools. Year 3 girls have also enjoyed their very first 'away' fixture this term at Colfe's.



Year 5 boys also played very well in the Eltham football tournament and reached the semi finals. Year 6 boys had their first contact rugby match against Virgo Fidelis and won 40-15. Year 2 played their first fixture against All Saints. The final of the

Cross Country at Alleyn's went very well with us coming second out of 7 schools. The boys have won the majority of their football matches this term.

In the **Bromley festival** both the Pre-prep choir and the Prep choir won once again. This year we faced stiff competition in both sections and the standard has without doubt got higher and higher. Our Prep choir achieved a Distinction with 90 marks for the first time ever which is a remarkable achievement. Almost every child in Years 1 and 2 belongs to the Pre-Prep Choir and almost 90 children were singing at the Bromley Festival last Friday. To achieve this quality with unselected, but nevertheless enthusiastic and focussed children is a testament to the passion and talents of Mrs Graham. Thanks for these achievements also go to Mrs Randall, Natalie Williams and Mrs Bevan.



There have been several trips out of school this term to support the curriculum. **Nursery** visited a new venue, the **British Wildlife Centre**, which was a delight, **Reception** went to the **Environmental Centre**, **Year 5** dressed up as Victorians to visit the **Ragged School** and **Year 6** have been to the **Imperial War Museum**.

Two of our parents have also supported our curriculum work. Mrs Mortimer visited Nursery and Reception to do a workshop on her new book 'Snoring Beauty' and Ms Hookes has done two inspiring Tudor Art workshops with Year 4. Nursery have enjoyed the Puppeteller's puppet show, and Shakespeare 4 Kidz have also done workshops on 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' with Years 5 and 6.



We have also had some wonderful performances in school from our own children. **Year 4** gave an inspirational performance of **Riversong**. **Instrumental soloists** on strings, wind, brass and piano have performed in special assemblies. **Year 5's assembly** on the Victorians was amazingly informative and very well produced.



Our **House Poetry competition** this year once again revealed some dazzling talent from our poetry writers. The contestants not only have to write their own poems but to perform them as well and they are judged on both the quality of the poem and their public performance. Hepworth were the overall winners this year but there were very few marks between the four houses and all should be congratulated for their contribution to a really lovely afternoon. Ms Sanovic, Head of English at Colfe's said the children's achievements had exceeded all her expectations.

I now await with anticipation the performance of our choirs and soloists again in the Choral Concert. I am also excited about our inaugural **Year 5 and 6 Taiko concert** on Thursday when **Year 5** will also be performing **1000 Cranes**.

This has been an amazing half term – full of achievement and excitement. Thank you for being so supportive of all our events and activities.

May I wish you all a very happy Easter.

Mrs P J Thompson