



OTTERHAM OBSERVER

IT'S BEEN YET ANOTHER HALF TERM PACKED WITH EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES AS THE SCHOOL YEAR DRAWS TO A CLOSE. INDEED, JULY SAW A CALENDAR THAT HAD SOMETHING HAPPENING TO A CLASS OR GROUP OF PUPILS NEARLY EVERY SINGLE DAY!

JULY 2017

OUR YEAR 6 LEAVERS 2017

We wish all of our leavers a happy and successful journey through secondary school and look forward to hearing all about your future achievements. Regardless of whether you started your primary school life here at Otterham or not, the school community thanks you all for the contributions you have made during your time here. Representing the school in sporting events, speech festivals, school council matters or music festivals over the years has contributed to Otterham's successes and, we hope, your enjoyment and achievement.

We would also like to thank you for your fundraising efforts towards your gifts to the school. £348 was raised in total which has been used to purchase 8 new benches. Fantastic effort!



SPORTS DAY 2017—WE WERE PLEASED WITH THE DECISION TO GO AHEAD ON WED 19TH JULY GIVEN THE WEATHER ON FRIDAY. RAIN DID MANAGE TO SHORTEN THE EVENT JUST A LITTLE BUT OVERALL THE CHILDREN ENJOYED THEMSELVES AND THE OLYMPIC SIZED LONG JUMP PIT WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED. MANY THANKS TO MR OSBORNE FOR ORGANISING THE AFTERNOON—A FULL REPORT IS AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE FOR YOUR PERUSAL.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

We hope that you are always treated fairly and feel able to come into school to discuss issues. We are open to reviewing our equality policies. What does this mean? We aim, in everything we do, to treat all members of our school community fairly in all respects—gender, race, age, sexual orientation, disability and religious belief. If you feel that you are being treated less than fairly it is hoped that you feel able to discuss the matter with any member of staff here at school, or if you would prefer to discuss it with a parent governor, please do so. The parent governors here at school are Rachel Quinn, Sarah Northcott and Gayle Crocker.

WE HOPE YOU HAVE A LOVELY SUMMER BREAK. WE SHALL BE WELCOMING CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER.

ALEX QUINN

Past pupil Alex Quinn came back to Otterham to talk to the children about his career to date as a racing car driver. His presentation was professional and informative, prompting a lot of sensible questions from his admiring audience of Class 1 and 2 children. Being able to touch his trophies and racing helmet was an added bonus. Alex is currently 4th in the British Formula 4 standings and everyone at Otterham wishes him every success on his journey. The school would like to thank Alex for taking the time and effort to deliver this talk, it is much appreciated. Alex's visit is part of the school's quest to raise attainment and aspirations amongst our pupils.

THANKS TO KATHY HOOPER FOR HER ASSISTANCE WITH PROVIDING CHICKS FOR CLASS THREE.

ALSO, BIG THANKS TO LORRAINE FOR ALL HER HELP WITH PROVIDING DUCKLINGS AND ACCOMMODATION!

YEAR1/2 ADVENTURE AT BOSCASTLE YHA

There was much excitement as the children arrived at the hostel, choosing beds and unpacking for their overnight stay. After a lovely Chip Supper and a stroll around the harbour for some fresh air it was time for bed. Miraculously, all were asleep by 10pm.

After breakfast the following morning it was time for another little walk and a visit to the Pottery and museum. A great time was had by all!



Year 6 Trip to France

It was yet again a pleasure to spend time with our pupils on their 24hr visit to France. The sailing out was nice and calm allowing the children to enjoy the on board entertainment (magician) and most getting a good nights sleep. It wasn't until the morning that the boat started to roll a little giving a flavour of what to expect on our return journey!

After our Le Petit Dejeuner in Roscoff we ventured over to I'll de Batz to explore the little island and find supplies for our picnic lunch. The children managed to complete this task using a little of their French knowledge and by this point becoming quite confident with bonjour, merci and au revoir.

Despite dark clouds looming we got away with just a bit of drizzle, enjoying the peace and tranquillity of this almost 'carless' island. Picnic and beach visit for play props complete we headed back to Roscoff to spend our Euros on gifts for friends and family.

Before we knew it, it was time for embarkation at Roscoff Ferry Port. Finding our comfortable seats on the Armorique we relaxed our weary feet as we set sail. It wasn't long before we felt the full force of the sea with big waves and lots of motion! A few party members struggled for a while but all survived with a small group even managing a trip to the cinema to see Beauty and the Beast.

As always, it was a very worthwhile trip with horizons broadened and confidence in using French increased.

BIKEABILITY

Congratulations to Tristan Rogers, Louis Curnow and Alexander Wade for passing their Bikeability Level 3 Award. Also to Oska Holmes for passing his Level 2 (theory only, practical next year). Tony complimented the boys on their attitude and effort, stating that they 'had been a pleasure to teach'. If you do venture out on to the roads boys—stay safe!



OTTER SANCTUARY TRIP—CLASS 3

The class received a fascinating talk on birds of prey with Neveah and Alfie being allowed to hold a bird each. Watching the otters being fed encouraged the children's appetites. After a picnic lunch the group enjoyed a stroll through the wooded area where they could feed the deer. Watching the wallabies bounce around and listening to the vocal peacocks added to the enjoyment of the day.



FRIENDS UPDATE

Please do check the 'Friends' section of the school website for the latest minutes and details of what has been going on behind the scenes. A high proportion of the children are represented by their parents at meetings but there is always room for more—many hands make light work!

Huge thanks goes to everyone who helped with preparations and stalls for the Summer Fayre. £315 was raised which is testament to the popularity of both the BBQ and the Tombola (thank you for donations).

There are plans for the Friends to fund a whole school Christmas cinema trip at The Rebel (screening dependent) and also assist with the purchase of new fiction books across the school.

The Friends have also kindly purchased the Y6 leavers gifts which we hope will get well used during their secondary school career! (maths set and dictionary).

After 8 years as secretary to the Friends, Nancy Sandercock has handed over the task to Michelle Langley. Huge thanks to Nancy for all her hard work and we are delighted that she remains a 'Friend'.

RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE CHILDREN OF OTTERHAM SCHOOL

- ♦ Martha Hosking—new PB in 50m front crawl and helped Stingers ‘Swim the Channel’
- ♦ Ruby Coleman—taken her Grade 3 singing exam and helped Stingers ‘Swim the Channel’
- ♦ Olive Hamilton—helped Stingers ‘Swim the Channel’
- ♦ Owen Benyon—completed 2 pages of ‘The Mines’ project
- ♦ Phoebe Coles—is now a Shark 3
- ♦ Toby Mather—has been doing a lot of horse riding
- ♦ Isabelle Windley—has learnt how to ride a bike
- ♦ Alfie Kenyon—now has 100 rosettes for leading Harry and riding
- ♦ Lexi Mather—has stood on Winnie’s saddle
- ♦ Amy Quinn—has received rosettes from Tall Trees for her riding
- ♦ Sophie Sandercock—helped Stingers ‘Swim the Channel’ and ridden a new horse
- ♦ Tilly Forbes-Pearce—has been awarded her Red Belt in Jujitsu
- ♦ Tony Steed—helped to shear a sheep
- ♦ Oscar Adams—completed a ‘Figure of Eight’ hike (15 miles approx)
- ♦ Tyler Muskett—has swam a length of the pool
- ♦ Evy Northcott—completed a 3 mile Race for Life
- ♦ Sam Coles—has moved up to ‘Big Band’
- ♦ Lois Curtis—walked the whole of Wilsey Woods
- ♦ Isobel Jones, Ana Hosking and Sophie Sandercock—awarded ‘Best Overall Entertainment’ as part of their ‘Fast Forward’ dance club carnival entry (Delabole)

ALTHOUGH CHILDREN ARE ASKED TO SHARE THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS, SOMETIMES THEY FORGET. PLEASE DO TELL US SO THEY CAN BE INCLUDED NEXT TIME.

GHOST DANCERS PROJECT—CLASS TWO



The children of class 2 were very lucky to be a part of the ghost dancers experience for the whole of the summer term of 2017. They had 5 music workshops where they created a piece of music. As well as this, they designed and made their costumes with a visual artist and they created a dance with two professional dancers from Dance Republic.



The children chose the theme of South American animals and consequently decided to be a prowl of jaguars. During this experience, the children have worked incredibly hard and it was completed with a performance at the Eden Project. It was fabulous to see so many parents there watching their children take part in such a memorable day.

MESSAGE REGARDING ASPENS (SCHOOL MEALS PROVIDER)

Aspens are going ‘green’ and will therefore no longer be providing school menus.

The menu is available on our School Website. Please navigate your way to the PARENTS SECTION and click on SCHOOL MEALS. Alternatively parents can download the Aspens App—instructions are also on the School Website.

There will of course be a copy of the menu in each class and on display at Reception.

CLASS TWO INVADE TINTAGEL AND BOSCASTLE ON THEIR RESIDENTIAL EXPERIENCE

Class 2's residential in Tintagel and Boscastle was blessed with fantastic weather. They enjoyed King Arthurs Halls, Tintagel Castle, St Materiana's Church and the Old Post Office. On the second day we walked back to school along the beautiful Valency Valley. All of the children behaved impeccably and didn't complain once about all the exercise that they got! It was a fabulous couple of days.



DRUM ASSEMBLY

A huge well done to Martha, Isobel and Adrianna for their stunning performance in front of the whole school, family and friends. Your effort and perseverance at learning a new skill has paid off! Martha and Isobel are keen to continue drumming as they move to secondary school and Adrianna will continue to have lessons with Tom here. Does your child want to learn to drum? If so, speak to Kerry and she can give you the necessary details.

FALMOUTH MARITIME MUSEUM TRIP

As part of their 'Viking' topic, the children from Class 2 headed to Falmouth to enhance their learning through workshops and 'hands on' activities. They had three workshops where they learnt about how the Vikings traded, dressed and how they made coins. We also had time to explore the museum. A fabulous day was had by all.



LASER TAG AT BIG DUNK'S

This was an end of school treat for some of the Y6 leavers.

Please read the separate report on the website but judging by the excitement and enthusiasm of children and staff on their return I can feel future visits on the cards!



ROYAL CORNWALL SHOW

It seems so long ago now but only fitting that we share the good news. All of our entries received rosettes for either 2nd, 3rd or 4th place so well done children as everybody contributed something!

CHANCE TO SHINE CRICKET

It has again been a pleasure to welcome Simon Fry back to Otterham to deliver specialist Cricket coaching to children in Classes 1 & 2. We have been part of this project for a number of years and skills are certainly being developed when assessments are made on the children receiving this throughout KS2.



WHEN THE WHALES CAME

It has been the turn of Class 1 to produce a play this Summer term with inspiration coming from their residential visit to The Isles of Scilly and Michael Morpurgo's book of the same name. Written by Miss Forbes but with considerable contributions by the children themselves, the play tells the story of two best friends, Daniel and Gracie and their relationship with 'The Birdman' who is cursed and therefore feared.

Class 1 performed it twice on Monday 24th July and really excelled themselves with so many outstanding performances—acting, singing and dancing. A superb way to showcase the talents of the children at the end of the school year. Well done Class 1— a proper job!

Many thanks to Miss Forbes for writing and directing the play, the children did you proud!

