



To The Parents

The start of the summer term always produces a special buzz around the School as we all look forward to the weeks ahead, packed with exciting activities and hopefully, plenty of sunshine.

Residentials

I am happy to report that the three residential trips at the end of last term went off without a hitch and were thoroughly enjoyed by children and teachers alike. I suspect that you also enjoyed the relative peace and quiet!

The Year 3 trip to Kingswood, Year 4 trip to Marwell and the Year 5/6 sports tour to Jersey each provided our children with a unique opportunity to learn new skills, experience activities for the first time and understand the importance of representing their School beyond the confines of the High Street. The children did not let us down and, in true PGJS spirit, made the very most of these special opportunities.

It is always a pleasure to take the children on such trips as we see a completely different side to their personalities, and for some it is the chance to shine away from the school environment. This additional knowledge and understanding of the children is invaluable to our teaching staff and enhances the whole learning process.

Reports on all three trips appear in this copy of The Lion.

Events

There will be many opportunities for you to come into school this term either to share in our activities and celebrations or to learn more about what we do and how your children learn. From our whole school assembly at Portsmouth Cathedral this week to our sports days, productions and Prize Giving; from our information evenings on transition and maths to our internet awareness presentation. I hope that you are able to attend some or all of these events.

PS Hopkinson

Y3 Love 3G!

For many of the Year 3 pupils this was the first time they would be staying away from their parents and for most the first time they would have taken part in the many exciting activities awaiting them at Kingswood. Therefore, it promised to be a challenging and exciting three days.

Following a calming ferry journey we set off for Carisbrooke Castle where the children learned all about the wonderful donkeys who were trained to turn the wheel, which in turn winched water up from the well. A tour of the castle followed and then back on the coach bound for Kingswood

Dan, our trip leader, ensured that the children thoroughly enjoyed their activities and stay, and Mrs Sayers, Mrs Reader, Mrs Summerskill and Mr Hopkinson ensured that the children were well looked after, cleaned and fed!!

Activities included: quad biking, Swampy challenge, Alien Survival challenge, Jacob's Ladder, climbing, team building, problem solving and easily the most popular activity of the week; the 3G swing.

The children were a great credit to the school and learned a great deal about being independent. They worked well together and as individuals, and the teachers did not deal with a single instance of home sickness. A great experience for all involved.



Marwell Activity Week

When we got there we unpacked in the bunkhouse. We then did a finding game where you had to find a coloured stamper in the woods and stamp it onto paper. Our group came second, Mrs Day was first and Mr Evans last!

In the mornings we all played outside before breakfast. We had a hot breakfast as well as a cold one. We had good activities at night as well. One night we had a Bonfire, sang funny songs and did jokes. Another night we did wide games where you had to hide in the forest and steal another team's ball. Our team came first.



On the last night we had a talent show. The funniest was Henry Wood and Ben Priory with their potato song!

I went kayaking with my group and we paddled round the lake splashing people! The water was cold! I also went canoeing. It was cold but fun! We did rock climbing too that made our hands ache! We all played games on the wall which was fun. Our group did building milk crates as high as they could go - the highest score was 14! Mr Evans' group won that game. We also did a giant swing which gave your tummy butterflies. It was the best I have been on! We also did orienteering, a tree walk on wires, trapeze, archery, rifle shooting, quad biking and team building games!

by Rosie Harfield 4J

Nursery News

Nursery Easter Bonnet Concert



In the nursery there was great excitement as the children all made an Easter Bonnet to wear during the Easter Bonnet Concert in the DRT. Each of them cut out the shapes for the hat and stuck on symbols of Easter. This year, the children also made a Nursery Rhyme Book. As the pages were turned, they sang the songs for friends and family to enjoy. Thanks must go to Honor and George for turning the pages of the book so carefully!



Corelli and Vivaldi Orchestras

Please note that rehearsals will start in the second week of term, as follows:
Corelli Orchestra – Tue 3 May
Vivaldi Orchestra – Wed 4 May
Violin, viola and cello lessons will start on the first day of term.

Ballet Dates

Please note that, due to Bank Holidays, there are only seven Ballet sessions this term, which are as follows: 9th May, 16th May, 23rd May, 13th June, 20th June, 27th June and 4th July.

Parking

We would like to remind all parents to drive and park sensibly around school. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Form Day – Year Four



Year Four were set a challenge for Form Day. They had to design and make a protective container that would ensure that an egg, when dropped from a great height, would not break!

The children worked really hard at ensuring the 'egg' would be safe. Some decided a parachute would help. Others made a container that made sure the egg fitted very 'snugly' in the container.

The high-light of the day was the 'testing'. How to make it a 'fair' test? Firstly Mrs Nash performed the 'control', by dropping an unprotected egg from the required height! Then one by one the 'protective containers' were dispatched from the window of Mrs Nash's classroom!

The results – well.... they were smashing!!!!



Sainsbury's and Tesco Vouchers

We are collecting Sainsbury's and Tesco vouchers. Collection boxes are located in the Junior School Office

Wedding Fever

Year One have had lots of fun celebrating the Royal Wedding this week! The children have taken part in a variety of activities linked to this exciting day, including making King and Queen puppets and writing their own Wedding Breakfast menus. Each class has experienced playing traditional party games as well as making crowns, party hats and flags for our red, white and blue themed Royal Wedding party!



A huge buzz of excitement has been echoing round Year 2 this week as they busily prepare for the historical event of Friday 29th April – the Royal Wedding. Invitations have been written, commemorative items have been designed and the route has been planned and drawn. These items have then been turned into a memory booklet. Finally we celebrated the wedding with a street party. What a wonderful week we have had!



Website

You can view a digital version of *The Lion* on the school website @ www.pgs.org.uk



HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS

The following Head Teacher's Awards were awarded:

Nicole Hugecova for an outstanding persuasive leaflet, **Emma Hale** for an excellent attitude to all her work, **Ryan Zhou** for working extremely well in English, **Amir Choudhury** for progress in concentration and focus, **Mani Noor-Spencer**, **Fenton Murphy**, **Eleanor Bolton**, **Isabel Herbert** and **Dominic Chew** for excellent work in Maths, **Rebecca Hawdon** for excellent effort throughout the spring term in Maths

GOLD BADGE

Congratulations to **Ben Brooks** and **Sienna Bentley** for gaining their Gold Badge

RED BADGE

Congratulations to **George Campkin**, **Sasha Wells**, **Charles Elliott**, **Archie Bennett** and **Evie McAuley** for gaining their Red Badge

3J form day

3J enjoyed their first day back after the Easter break creating a collage of Humpty Dumpty. They became reporters for the day and wrote exciting reports on Humpty's unfortunate accident.



Brass Players Break Junior School Records

Just before the Easter Holidays, national music exams took place at school. We had a 100% pass rate with the brass, and record levels were reached by Junior School brass players. Oliver Saunders euphonium, and Tom Ross tenor horn, both passed Grade 6 with Merit, the first on their respective instruments to get to this level in the Junior School. Jonathon Easton passed Grade 7 trumpet with Merit, again the first to reach this level on the trumpet; Jonathon is also the first brass player of any brass instrument, to reach Grade 7 in the Junior School. Matthew Holloway passed Grade 6 trumpet with Merit, the first Year 5 pupil to reach this level by the spring term in Year 5.

Other successes were: Thomas Gibb trumpet Grade 1 Merit, Merlin Wright euphonium Grade 2 Merit, Sebastian Brown trumpet Grade 2 Pass, Daniel Hill euphonium Grade 2 Merit, Hector Bonnin trumpet Grade 2 Pass, Sophie Forrest french horn Grade 2 Distinction, Naeve Molho tenor horn Grade 2 Pass, Jozef Wragg trumpet Grade 3 Pass, Finley Howe-Walsh trumpet Grade 3 Pass, Charlie Dean cornet Grade 3 Merit, Mani Noor-Spencer tenor horn Grade 3 Merit, James Taylor cornet Grade 3 Pass, Benjamin Steggall cornet Grade 4 Pass, Joseph Kooner-Evans euphonium Grade 4 Pass, Elizabeth Jones tenor horn Grade 4 Pass, Thomas Randall tenor horn Grade 4 Pass, Matthew Waters trumpet Grade 4 Merit, Ethan Huddle trumpet Grade 5 Pass, William Lewis tuba Grade 5 Distinction, and Harry Minall cornet Grade 5 Merit. Congratulations to them All.

PUPILS' ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to:

Emily Nelson (3J) who has successfully passed her ASA Waterskills 5 award and 100 metres.

Will Donworth (5S) who was awarded U10's player of the season at US Portsmouth RFC.

Year 5 Local History Study



On Tuesday, all Year Five pupils walked down to the sea wall, where they looked in detail at memorials which line the area. This is to prepare them for a study of local history which considers the role Portsmouth has played in major historical moments. The first memorial to be placed there, the Hecla stone brought back from the Crimean War, is shown here. In the balmy sunshine, all completed an analysis of who was remembered and when each event took place. They also recorded details of whether it was an arrival or departure from Portsmouth that was being shown and any other interesting details. From the Tudor towers to the Falklands War memorial, all proved fascinating. Pupils developed both a real awareness of the significant events which have been played out on our doorstep and an ability to decode the complex explanations which sometimes form part of such memorials.



Grand Tour

The Year 5/6 Jersey trip was a huge success! We managed to squeeze in some fabulous activities as well as the exhausting football matches. Including: The Gerald Durrell Zoo, the maritime museum, the Underground War Tunnels, the Aqua Splash water park and Amaizin'. It was a trip to remember especially as there was a beach opposite the luxurious hotel, The Ambassadeur. Although we didn't win all of our three football matches we all had great fun.

We thank every person who was involved in creating the Jersey trip, especially Mr Faulconbridge who introduced the Jersey trip with the help of other staff but then sadly couldn't come. He was missed during the holiday. It would be amazing for the Jersey trip to carry on through the years so that Mr F would be able to go on this fun, educational and successful trip. Special thanks to Mrs Evans, Mrs Budgen, Mrs Dossett, Mr Leclercq, Mr Leach and Mr Griffin who were great fun and looked after us for our six days of fantastic fun.

By Tom Baker 6G

As you may know 50 members of Year 5 and 6 recently visited Jersey on a sports tour for 5 days in the Easter holidays. Not only did we play football and netball, but we also went to the Maritime Museum, the Amazing Maze, Aqua Splash, and spent countless hours on the beach (when the weather was good) eating our picnics and playing rounders and cricket.

On our first day, Friday, we visited the Maritime Museum; on Saturday the boys played football against First Tower United FC, whilst the girls played netball against Jersey Netball Club. Sunday came with a football match for the boys versus Jersey Wanderers FC and a morning of exploring the war

tunnels for the girls, then later we all met up and visited the Gerald Durrell Wildlife Sanctuary (where there were gorillas and pink flamingos). Monday came around and the girls had to be at breakfast by 7:45, because we had a netball session with the girls at St Michael's sports hall, whilst the boys got a lie in and then explored the war tunnels (that had already been visited by the girls the day before). In the afternoon the girls prepared for the disco and the talent show, which was happening the following night, whilst the footy boys played their 3rd and final match against St Peters FC. Tuesday arrived with an enjoyable Netball tournament for the girls at St Michael's, but unfortunately a couple of girls felt ill so 3 boys volunteered (the spectacular Josh Ellard, Ryan Webb and Philip Macanovic) to play- two of them had never played before ! We later visited Aqua Splash and had a fabulous time. This was undoubtedly the most popular day trip of the visit as there was a wave pool and three water slides.

When the evening eventually came there was the amazing spectacular Jersey Talent show.

Overall the holiday was amazing and it was really, really fun. We were very lucky with the weather, which was sunny and hot while we were there. Also thank you to Mrs Evans, Mr Leclercq, Mr Faulconbridge (who was unfortunately unable to come), Mrs Dossett, Mrs Budgen, Mr Griffin and Mr Leach for organising everything and looking after us.

By Mia Austin 6J

Swimming Summer Term

All swimming lessons for KS1 and Years 3 and 4 will start week beginning Monday 9th May.

KS1

Swim all term.

Years 3 and 4

First half term – 3G, 3P, 4J

Second half term – 3S, 3J, 4G, 4P

Answerphone System

In the event of uncertainty due to inclement weather please check above sports arrangements using the answerphone system. Please phone the School on Saturday morning from 8.00 a.m. On weekday games days please phone from 1.30 p.m. **The number to ring is 02392 364266.** In **EMERGENCIES ONLY** please ring the following number: **07738 958314**

NO HILSEA GAMES

On 30th April .

Quiz Corner

Mrs Budgen's Brain Boggler:

Start with the word **WINTER**. What one letter could you take out to form a new word? Can you continue until you have just a one-letter word left?

Answer from last week:

3	2	4	1
1	4	2	3
2	1	3	4
4	3	1	2