



Spratton Hall

NEWSLETTER



PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations and well done to Louisa Roberts who was a main member of the cast of The Polar Express train ride that performed in Birmingham over the Christmas period following an extensive audition process.

Performances went extremely well.



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From the Head Master

It was so good to see the pupils back in school ready and raring to go for the new term. I am sure the two-day week will help ease them back into the school routine after the Christmas break. It was also lovely to welcome so many new pupils into the school and to see them already starting to settle into the Spratton way of life.

Scholarship Success

I am delighted to announce that Edward Bradnam has been awarded a Sports Scholarship to Oundle. Many congratulations indeed to Edward. This is great news with which to start the new year.

Carol Services

Both the Junior and Senior Carol Services held at the end of term were quite splendid occasions. There is little better than a full church on a cold winter's day, singing rousing carols to lift everyone's spirits. Well done to all those pupils involved, particularly the choirs, soloists, readers and members of the brass group. My thanks, as always, to Miss Morrell and Mrs Fountain for their hard work towards these wonderful occasions.

Sponsorship of Flavia

Years 4 and 5 are to be congratulated on their hard work and efforts towards sponsoring Flavia at Outspan School in Uganda. We have now been sponsoring Flavia for just over four years, with our current Year 8s being the first year group to support her and to raise funds to cover her fees so that she can attend school in Kampala.

Years 4 and 5 did such a wonderful job of raising money through sponsored walks and runs last term that we have been able to cover her fees for the next two years, as well as make a significant donation towards the Outspan Secondary School in developing a new borehole to provide water. This is an expensive project for them and our donations will go a long way to helping them achieve their goal of having safe water 'on tap'. At present, their pupils are carrying 20 litre jerry cans three times a day to collect water from the village pump.


Visit of Bedford School Headmaster

Mr Hodgson, Headmaster of Bedford, was due to visit to speak in assembly next Friday. He is, however, unable to attend now so the Bedford School Chaplain, Mr Neil McCleery, will be leading our assembly instead. Parents are still very welcome to attend but there will not be the usual tea and coffee served afterwards.

Attain Magazine

Attached with the newsletter is the latest copy of *Attain*, the magazine produced by IAPS for all prep school parents. There are a number of very good articles in this issue which we hope you will find useful and interesting, including how children can get enough sleep and the value of prep school education. The lead story looks at the growing problem in schools of parents' online messaging groups and how this can upset the balance of trust between parents and schools. There is also a very insightful piece from Julie Robinson, General Secretary of the Independent Schools' Council, who highlights the findings of a report on the value of independent schools.

Thank you





LUNCH MENU	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Soup		Mushroom		Leek & Potato	
Meat Main Course	Meatballs with Spaghetti & Sweetcorn	Sausage, Mash & Baked Beans	Tuna Pasta Bake with Green Beans	Chicken Pie with New Potatoes & Cauliflower/Broccoli	Fish, Chips & Mushy Peas
Vegetarian Main Course	Stuffed Peppers	Vegetarian Sausages	Vegetable Curry & Rice	Vegetable Pie	Macaroni Cheese
Salad Bar Options for Prep & Pre-Prep	Roast Ham or Cheese	Sliced Turkey or Cheese Scones	Grated Cheese or Egg Mayonnaise	Sausage Roll or Tuna Mayonnaise	Grated Cheese or Roast Ham
Jacket Potato Bar	BBQ Chicken		Chilli		Cheesy Beans
Desserts	Ginger Sponge	Lemon Drizzle	Apple Crumble	Fruit Cheesecake	Iced Chocolate Cake
	Yoghurt, Fruit, Cheese & Biscuits	Yoghurt, Fruit, Cheese & Biscuits	Yoghurt, Fruit, Cheese & Biscuits	Yoghurt, Fruit, Cheese & Biscuits	Yoghurt, Fruit, Cheese & Biscuits

School Diary for January

Monday 14th	Tuesday 15th	Wednesday 16th	Thursday 17th	Friday 18th	Saturday 19th	Sunday 20th
No Calendar Events	Lianne Norfolk from Encore-Environment Company to talk to Eco Club	<p>1430</p> <p>1st & 2nd VII, U12A Netball v Witham Hall (A)</p> <p>U11 A&B Netball v Witham Hall (H)</p> <p>U10A Netball Triangular v Stoneygate & Fairfield (A—Stoneygate)</p> <p>U11A, U10 A&B Football v Witham Hall (H)</p> <p>U11 B&C Football v Witham Hall (A)</p> <p>1st XI Hockey v Oakham (H)</p> <p>3rd XI Hockey v Oakham (A)</p> <p>1520</p> <p>2nd XI Hockey v Oakham (H)</p> <p>4th XI Hockey v Oakham (A)</p>	No Calendar Events	<p>0830—0930</p> <p>SHSPA Meeting in Townsend Library</p> <p>0845—0910</p> <p>Assembly with Mr Neil McCleery, Chaplain of Bedford School—Parents are welcome to attend</p>	<p>1125</p> <p>County Cross Country Championships at Glebe Park, Corby (Years 6/7/8)</p> <p>1400</p> <p>1st XI Hockey v Foremarke Hall (H)</p> <p>3rd XI Hockey v Foremarke Hall (A)</p> <p>1500</p> <p>2nd XI Hockey v Foremarke Hall (H)</p> <p>4th XI Hockey v Foremarke Hall (A)</p>	No Calendar Events

Sport Department

Fixture Amendments & Cancellations

Thursday 7th March
 Amendment: U9A&B Netball v Akeley Wood is at HOME

Calendar Amendments

Saturday 19th January
 Addition: County Cross-Country Championships at Glebe Park, Corby

Saturday 30th March
 Year 8 Depart for Pila, Italy (not Sunday 31st March)

Sunday 24th March
 Year 7&8 (optional) Visit to MCM Comic Con at Birmingham NEC has changed dates (not 17th March)



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PRE-PREP



Happy New Year from the Pre-Prep Department!

Within a busy day of meetings and classroom preparations during our Inset Day on Wednesday, staff were working away and saying how excited they all felt to be seeing the children again – we had missed them! Thursday morning did not disappoint. There was plenty of animated chatter amongst the children as they swapped stories about new toys, festive family outings, and very mischievous elves who, much to your relief I would imagine, considering the many tricks they got up to, have now safely relocated back to the North Pole!

Raring to go in the Spring Term, the classrooms are looking bright and colourful, with many new displays and imaginative role-play areas designed to ignite the children's interest in their new topics.

In Reception, there is an eclectic mix of toys, such as old-fashioned bears, programmable robots and wooden construction kits with many more making an appearance as their new topic 'Toys' unfolds. In Year 1, they are preparing to venture into the historic topic of 'The Egyptians'. Many gasps could be heard on Tuesday morning as the children took sight of a huge, gold-topped pyramid, an archaeological digging area and numerous images of pharaohs and ornate sarcophaguses. In Year 2, the walls are adorned with images of famous explorers, with a fabulous 'Adventurers Base Camp' also having been created! Please do refer to the school calendar for details of the study visits linked to each topic - it certainly promises to be a rewarding and eventful Spring Term!

Furthermore, to help keep you informed about your child's learning within the coming term, class teachers will be sending home topic overviews this afternoon. The topic overviews provide an outline of opportunities designed to inspire learning and develop the children's knowledge, understanding and skills across the curriculum. The teachers plan creatively, with many subjects interlinked to heighten educational experiences. Great forethought is also given to building in opportunities for taking the children's learning outdoors and to ensuring that we enable ICT to be used as a valuable tool for communicating, supporting and extending the children's thinking. Please do keep a lookout in your child's book bag for this information.

Finally, if memories of our Christmas plays are fast becoming a distant memory and you would like to relive those magical nativity moments, then final orders for the DVD are now being taken. The DVDs are priced at £10 each; please do send me an email if you would like one adding to your school account.

Fiona Sanchez
Head of Pre-Prep

Pupil Achievements

A special mention must go to Juno Dow (2P) who set herself the challenge of cycling twice around Pitsford Reservoir, plus a little extra to make it up to 15 miles, in order to raise money for the Rainbows Hospice in Loughborough. Juno was the driving force behind the whole event, in which she successfully raised a total of £585!

Very well done to Mara Hamilton (RB) who was awarded 'La Souris Verte', the 'Green Mouse' Ski Badge, whilst skiing with her family in the holidays.

Pre-Prep Diary

Please keep a lookout in next week's newsletter, where I will publish the dates for our Year Group Assemblies this term.