



WILMSLOW
PREPARATORY
SCHOOL



Head and Deputy Head girl

Summer 2016

"PrepTalk"

Education, Inspiration & Dedication

Welcome to the 2016 edition of PrepTalk. As I reflect on another successful year, I am utterly amazed how much has been achieved by the children, staff, parents and governors in just 12 months.

The achievements extend from academic, to sporting and creative arts and include numerous fun and fundraising activities. We achieve so much because we work together as a team and this is one of the greatest strengths of our School.

The academic achievements we attained this year in the classroom have, once again, been outstanding and we are extremely proud of all of our pupils, particularly, the form 6 pupils, who are now looking ahead to the next chapter in their lives. These children sat exams for a wide range of Manchester Consortium Schools including AESG, Withington, Kings, Manchester High, Cheadle Hulme and Stockport Grammar and their hard work was rewarded by a total of 24 offers, including 2 sport scholarships and 1 music scholarship. All the children in Form 6 have secured places at senior schools of their choice; we are incredibly proud of them and their success is richly deserved. Thank you to Mrs Hughes, Mr Lalley and all of the WPS team for their hard work and commitment in preparing the children for the next stage of their education.

To all the Form 6 pupils, we hope you continue to have big dreams and ambitions as you begin to write the next chapter of your lives. When you look back at your WPS experiences, we hope you remember them fondly and appreciate the excellent start your parents gave you by choosing our super school. Take all you have learnt here and use it to build your future. We wish you all every happiness and success.

From our youngest pupils in EYFS to our eldest in Form 6, there are many opportunities for the children to develop their confidence and skills in a wide variety of extra-curricular activities, and we are always delighted to see so many children taking part.

Many of our pupils represent WPS in sport, music, drama and art, and it delights us all to see the children stretching and broadening their horizons by taking advantage of all of the exciting opportunities.

In music, a staggering 93% of pupils in KS2 take individual lessons and our choirs and orchestra have entertained and inspired us all this year.



In sport, our competitive programme has been extensive and the children have represented the School in a wide range of sports including netball, hockey, rounders, dance, football and athletics, both locally and nationally. Our English Speaking Board Assessment results this academic year have been outstanding and the children have, once again enjoyed great success in both drama and music at the Alderley Edge Festival. Our art work continues to be of an exceptionally high standard and has been admired and celebrated in School and at competitions and events throughout the year.

At WPS, the opportunities are endless and we are extremely proud of the children for their hard work and commitment to being the best that they can be, whatever they choose to take part in.

I do hope that you enjoy reading this year's PrepTalk which includes some of the key highlights of the 2015/2016 academic year. On behalf of the Governors, SMT and staff, may I wish you a peaceful and relaxing summer break; we look forward to welcoming you all back to School in September.

Mrs Helen Rigby
Headteacher



Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural



The WPS philosophy of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development (SMSC) is to provide opportunities within both the core and extended curriculum enabling children to understand, reflect, and respond positively to a range of challenges and opportunities and also to participate fully and positively in a democratic society.

Spiritual

The children's spiritual development is shown by their ability to reflect on their beliefs, religious or otherwise, which inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's feelings and values.



The wonderment of snow.

Social

The children's social development is demonstrated by their use of a range of social skills in different contexts including lessons, playtimes, extra-curricular activities, community work and fundraising activities.

EYFS Den Building

Children were actively involved in a den-building and role-play session relating to the traditional story of The Three Little Pigs. The children thoroughly enjoyed designing and making both the house of straw and the house of sticks, but planning and building the house of bricks was the highlight of the session!



Moral

The children's moral development is shown by their ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong and their readiness to apply this understanding in their own lives.

Harvest Festival

WPS pupils and their families generously donated food and gifts for our annual Harvest Festival. The baskets were kindly donated by F6 and were gratefully received by local friends and neighbours.



Cultural

The children's cultural development is shown by their understanding and appreciation of a wide range of influences that have shaped not only their heritage but that of other cultures also.

Happy 90th Birthday to The Queen

We donned our red, white and blue colours to commemorate the Queen's 90th birthday and celebrated with a fantastic tea party with our families!



Success through Sport



Sports Day 2016

At the end of June, we enjoyed a fantastic Sports Day, where pupils competed in the obstacle race, sack race, relay race, tug of war and running races. There was a lovely atmosphere throughout the day, and it was pleasing to see so much enthusiasm from everyone. Thank you so much to all who came to support the events, and to the teachers who helped keep score. The overall winning House was Capesthorne.



ISA Cross-Country Championships

In February, WPS travelled to Beech House School in Rochdale to compete in the ISA Junior Cross-Country Championship. Despite the very muddy conditions it was a great experience for all the children who should be congratulated for their superb efforts.



IAPS run for fun



On a wet afternoon in April, Forms 1 & 2 took part in a 'Run for Fun' at Wilmslow Rugby Club. For the children this was an early introduction to cross-country running. Alliya, Oliver, Henrike and Lysandre were the first WPS runners to finish in their respective races, but a big well done to all the children who participated!

ISA North Athletics Competition

In June, the junior athletics team competed in the ISA North Junior Athletics Competition at Sport City in Manchester. Sophie in F5 finished 5th in the 150 metre race and Charlie in F4 qualified to represent the North in the Rounders Ball Throw at the National Competition at the end of the month.

F3 & F4 performed particularly well in their respective relay races.

It was a brilliant team effort and everyone had a super day.



Music and Performing Arts



Alderley Edge Music Festival

The annual Alderley Edge Music Festival was another great success for the WPS pupils. The Chamber Choir and the Form 2 & 3 Choir both won first place in their respective classes and a shiny cup to go with it!

31 children took part in individual music classes, some of them competitive and others non-competitive. We are thrilled to announce 6 first places, 6 second places and 2 third places; and well done to all of the children who represented WPS to such an excellent standard.



WPS Annual House Music Competition



In March, the House Music Competition was a wonderful day of musical celebration as the children performed many solos and songs. Our adjudicator, Mr Aidan Bradley, gave the children much deserved praise as well as wise words of advice. He was most impressed by the musical standard of our pupils and especially by the huge numbers taking individual music lessons.

Congratulations to all participants and well done to Moreton who were the winners of the House Music Cup on the day!

Summer Concert

Parents and guests from F3 to F6 were treated to an evening of music, speech and drama during our annual summer concert. It was a fabulous event and all the performances were enjoyed and appreciated.

Amazing ESB results

This year proved to be an exceptional year. Many pupils achieved distinction in the exam, including all children in Form 5, a superb whole class result. These results reaffirm that WPS is a unique and exceptional school, offering pupils much more than just an excellent education.



Go for Gold

In March, the production of 'Go for Gold', performed by F3 and F4, embraced the spirit of the Olympic Games and provided an historical extravaganza for their audience. They went back in time to meet Zeus and the Greek Gods, who started the Games. It was another superb production and we couldn't have done it without the support of the parents, Mrs Barton, Mrs Rundell and Mrs Anderson.

A Celebration of Dance

The children in F3 & F4 recreated a vibrant Spanish dance for a local school event. Well done to our pupils who represented WPS in this colourful and energetic routine!



Oh the places we'll go!



The Early Years' visit to Chester Zoo enabled the children to see some of the most exotic and endangered animals in the world. Throughout the visit the children were amazed at the size of some of the animals and loved watching the animals perform; they particularly enjoyed seeing the Gibbons. What a memorable trip for everyone!

Knowsley Safari Park

In May, Forms 1 and 2 enjoyed a brilliant, educational trip to Knowsley Safari Park. The topics we studied in science really came alive during this trip and we all loved seeing a dazzle of zebras, a barrel of monkeys and a pride of lions. Some of the best moments of the trip were stroking an owl, seeing a baby rhino and coming eye to eye with the majestic giraffes.



Trip to Manchester Airport

Forms 1 and 2 had a wonderful experience at the Manchester Runway Visitor Centre in March. They had the opportunity to see Concorde and went aboard a retired plane. They were very excited when taking on a variety of roles on the flight deck and they loved waving to the planes taking off and landing. It really was a fabulous day!



York

Anglo-Saxon costumes, Evensong and chocolate wallpaper; just three of the high points of the Form 4 trip to York! We packed a lot of activities into a short time, including walking the famous walls and visiting the Minster, and the trip was a thoroughly enjoyable educational experience. As ever, the children were super ambassadors for our School and we are very proud of them all. A huge thank you to Mrs Barton, Mrs Connolly and Mme Ward for their hard work organising and accompanying the trip!



Trip to York

F5 Trip to Tatton Old Hall

In December, the children in Form 5 experienced a living history day to support their topic work on the Tudors. The children learned how to wattle and daub, how to make flour and how to spin wool. They also learned about the deer on the Tatton estate. It was a fabulous trip and a great learning experience for everyone.



F5 and F6 Trip to Winmarleigh

The children had a great time at Winmarleigh Hall in May, where the activities focused around team building and communication. The children completed many challenges including one where they quite literally tied themselves in knots!

The children all demonstrated excellent team building and listening skills, and enjoyed the challenge of the low rope



Library



Winmarleigh Hall

activities, the giant swing and the 'all aboard' climbing task.

All our pupils made the most of what was on offer and they were excited and enthusiastic about absolutely everything. It really was a pleasure to share this wonderful experience with them.

F3 & F4 Trip to Sainsbury's

As part of the Food Technology unit on 'A healthy and varied diet,' Forms 3 and 4 visited Sainsbury's in Wilmslow. During our visit the children had a tour of the store and were lucky enough to go 'behind the scenes', including taking a seat in the manager's office where they were shown how the store decides what to sell, how and when stock is ordered and replenished, and how the store is organised. The children also had a talk on food hygiene and safety, and learnt about food labelling and food storage.



EYFS Trip to Delamere Forest

In March, the EYFS children enjoyed a back-to-nature experience at Delamere Forest. During the visit the children explored and discovered the natural world of many animals and their habitats. It was a brilliant day, full of educational games and activities that certainly stimulated and inspired imaginations!



Summer 2016

"PrepTalk"

Rotary Club Community Service Award



Mrs Rigby was delighted to be invited to attend the Rotary Club Burns Night Supper in January, to receive a community award on behalf of Wilmslow Prep, in recognition of our support with the ROTA-TOY appeal.

We are a small school with a big heart and our charity work is an integral and important part of our extended curriculum.

ISA Art Competition

The ISA Art Competition is always a successful experience for WPS pupils. Art is another important part of our extended curriculum and we are very proud of the work produced.



We took home 3 first place prizes this year: Beatrice in Form 5 won an individual award in the category of KS2 3D Art for her sculpture titled 'Toad of Toad Hall'. We also took

home a first place in the EYFS Group Category of 3D Art with a sculpture called, 'Octopus Under The Sea'. The 3rd gold medal winners were Form 6 in the 3D Art Group for their sculpture called 'A Victorian Kitchen'. Congratulations to all our entrants, especially the winners!



ISA Art Competition

Former Pupil Tori Longdon returns to WPS

In March, we were delighted to welcome back Victoria Longdon, an alumna of Wilmslow Prep School. Having completed Year 6 in 2002, Victoria went on to Withington Girls School and then Durham University where she received a 1st class honours in English Literature.



Victoria spent the day with the children conducting 3 musical workshops, designed to teach the pupils about using different voices, singing to a beat, harmonising, following a rhythm, playing musical games and having lots of fun. It was a very special day, thoroughly enjoyed by all!

World Book Day 2016



Celebrating World Book Day

This year, we celebrated World Book Day with the WPS Big Read. It was lovely to see the children so enthusiastic about the book they each brought in and we all went away with new favourites.

Space Biology

In April, Form 3 took part in the national Rocket Science investigation. In September 2015 2kg of rocket seeds travelled to the ISS where they were stored in microgravity by Tim Peake until they returned in March 2016.

We were very fortunate to be chosen as one of the schools to investigate the question 'Does microgravity affect the rate of plant growth?' Over the next six weeks we monitored and recorded the germination and growth rate of the seeds and compared the results with those that had been left on Earth.



Reindeer Ramble

Puzzle Challenge Day



The children in KS1 and KS2 had a fantastic day in April playing lots of puzzle games. Many thanks to Kieron from the Happy Puzzle Company who also did an excellent workshop for WPS parents.

The children enjoyed developing their strategic thinking skills while also having fun and learning to work as a team.

Parents' Committee

The Parents' Committee arranged many enjoyable and worthwhile events for WPS families this year. The Hog Roast event was a fantastic and fun highlight, as well as the ladies lunches, Valentine's disco and Christmas and Summer Fairs.

The Committee also donated an enormous amount of money, helping the School to purchase a new minibus, camera, and defibrillator. In addition, the Committee funded the fantastic puzzle day, Humanities day, literacy scheme and various Early Years activities and equipment.

A huge thank you to the Parents' Committee who raised funds for the School and to all the parents who have attended events, bought raffle tickets and donated items, or supported events in any way.



School Mini bus