



So much to celebrate at WPS

Welcome to the 2017 edition of PrepTalk. As another school year comes to an end and we reflect back on everything we've accomplished in the past 12 months, I can't help but feel incredibly proud to be part of such a wonderful school family.

One of our main goals at Wilmslow Prep School is to enable our pupils to achieve success by doing their best in all aspects of their life, both inside and outside of school. We regularly share success in assemblies and children are publicly praised for excellent behaviour, manners and achievements, whatever they may be.

There are some extraordinary highlights that I would love to share with you as we reach the end of this school year.

Firstly, we must recognise and congratulate our Form 6 pupils who, once again, successfully achieved places at senior schools of their choice. We are incredibly proud of them and we are confident that they are extremely well prepared for the next chapter of their educational journey.

Throughout the School, in addition to putting incredible effort into their academic subjects, pupils are also involved in a varied extended curriculum including music, art, drama and a wide range of sports.

Our English Speaking Board results this year were nothing short of remarkable. Every child from F2-F6 who participated in the speaking exams achieved a grade of merit plus or distinction, a superb achievement of which we are all immensely proud.

I would also like to highlight a few individual achievements, which have been celebrated at School. Megan in Form 4 went on to compete in the National ISA Athletics Competition, having achieved 1st place in the ISA North Competition in the high jump. Lilia in Form 5 came first in the Regional ISA Art Competition, and 2nd in the National Competition. Sophie in Form 6 won the overall best reader in the Triangular Interscholar Reading Competition held at the Prep just a few weeks ago.

The Alderley Edge Music Festival is another annual event which is well supported by WPS pupils, and we are always so proud of the way in which we perform at this festival. This year, we had numerous winners through our choir, orchestra, and many individual performances.



I believe each and every child at WPS has accomplished something special this year, and I would like to congratulate all of our pupils for being so dedicated, hardworking, and thoughtful. We thrive on nurturing well-rounded and self-confident individuals as we help them to develop the skills they need to manage the choices and opportunities ahead of them.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents for being such a supportive and important part of the WPS family. As we break up for the summer to enjoy some quality time with our families, we can't help but look forward to what next year is going to bring. As always, our priority will be to educate and inspire our pupils to be the best that they can be, in a kind, caring and nurturing environment.

In the meantime, I do hope that you enjoy reading PrepTalk which includes some of the key highlights of the 2016/17 academic year.

Mrs Helen Rigby
Headteacher



Good fun doing good deeds!



Jeans for Genes Day

In September, the children and staff wore denim and entered our Collage and Picture Competition. With this, we raised a fantastic £165 for the Jeans for Genes Charity, which will benefit greatly from our support.



Children In Need

This year, once again, we supported Children in Need with a fun day organised by Mrs Broome and the School Council. On the day we all wore a spotty accessory and raised a fantastic £225.00 for this worthy cause. Many thanks to everyone who took part.



Harvest Festival

In October, we welcomed Reverend Paul Smith back to WPS to lead our Harvest Assembly and the children shared some wonderful Harvest songs, poems and readings. The donated food items were distributed to Food Friend, a Wilmslow based charity.

Skipathon 2016

In September, we held our annual 'Skipathon' in aid of the British Heart Foundation, where all forms enjoyed learning or extending their skipping skills and in the process raised worthwhile funds. Under the terms and conditions of the BHF, 20% (£97) has been retained by School for the purchase of PE equipment and £388 has been donated to the charity.



Rota-Toy

It was great to see so many children taking part in the Rota-Toy appeal this year. Due to the generous donations, we were able to present over 60 boxes to the Rotary Club of Wilmslow Dean to distribute as the need arises.

Poppy Appeal

In November, during the period of Remembrance, children were able to purchase bracelets, reflectors and poppies for the Royal British Legion. This year, we raised £160.54 which was gratefully received.



Elf Walk

The Christmas Stroll is always a fun and exciting event as pupils and teachers dress up and walk through the centre of Wilmslow, singing festive Christmas songs. WPS turns the walk into a fundraising day in order to raise money for East Cheshire Hospice. This year, we raised a whopping £1442.00. Well done to all involved.

Seeking Adventure



Form 1 Trip to Dunham Massey

In May, Forms 1 & 2 had a super visit to Dunham Massey where they became housemaids to Lady Stamford. As part of their training they learnt to make beds, bake gingerbread men, empty chamber pots and polish silver.



Form 4 Trip to York

Form 4 headed to York in May, becoming enthusiastic historians for their three day trip. As well as taking part in an archaeological dig, they visited the Jorvik Centre, York Minster and York Museum where they dressed up as Vikings and learnt how to make belts and silver brooches. The pupils were taught about the history of chocolate making in the UK during a visit to the York Chocolate Exhibition – let's face it, no trip to York is complete without it!



Form 5 Visits Speke Hall

As part of Form 5's history study on the Tudors, they visited the National Trust property Speke Hall, near Liverpool. During their tour of the Hall, they learnt about the history of Speke Hall and the family who lived there. They enjoyed learning a simple Tudor dance and dressing up in some of the Tudor costumes. They were particularly interested in learning about the spy holes and a secret priest hole, which were used to hide Catholic priests during that time. They also enjoyed exploring the Hall's outdoor maze.



Early Years Trip to Lytham

In May, Kindergarten and Reception enjoyed a sunny day out to the seaside in Lytham. The children went rock pooling and had fun playing in the sand. A great time was had by all.



EYFS Visit to the Fire Station

In October, our Kindergarten and Reception classes visited Wilmslow Fire Station as part of the 'People Who Help Us' topic. Fire Officers taught us about fire prevention, the role of the Fire Service and the kind of jobs they carry out. The children really enjoyed seeing the equipment, operating the hose, hearing about how fires are put out, and stories about rescuing people and animals. Thank you to the Fire Officers, staff and volunteers and particularly to the children who were very well behaved and a credit to WPS.



Forms 3 & 4 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.

Forms 3 & 4 Trip to the Theatre

Forms 3 and 4 were treated to a Roald Dahl spectacular when they went to see a production of "George's Marvellous Medicine" at The Opera House. Pupils were enthusiastic about helping George to create his medicine for Granny and quickly joined in the magic rhyme to complete the disgusting mix. They squealed with delight as Granny grew and a gigantic chicken, who happened to sample the medicine, chased George and his family around the stage. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed their theatre experience and were super ambassadors for the School.



Reception, F1 & F2 Trip to Etihad Stadium

In September the children were offered the opportunity to train at The Etihad Stadium Campus in Manchester. They were put through their paces by the Manchester City football coaches and finished their trip with a small round robin tournament, which was a great way to show off the skills they had learnt during the session. The visit was a super footballing experience so many thanks to the Parents' Committee for sponsoring the transport to facilitate this wonderful trip.

WPS Performing Arts – a class above the rest!



Alderley Edge Music Festival

The Alderley Edge Music Festival is always exciting and successful in equal measure. Congratulations to the Junior Choir who came first in their category and also to the Chamber Choir who were placed 2nd. We also earned 7 marvellous individual first place prizes as well as 5 second place prizes and 5 third place prizes. Megan in Form 4 was invited to sing in the Festival's finale concert, which was wonderful. Congratulations to all who took part and to all of the winners.



Once Upon A Christmas Time (Kindergarten & Reception) and Christmas Counts For Everyone (Forms 1 & 2)

In December, we enjoyed two stunning performances from the Early Years pupils and the Key Stage 1 pupils. The children delighted us all with their singing and acting, and we were incredibly proud of them all. It was a fabulous way to start the Christmas season. Well done to everyone involved.



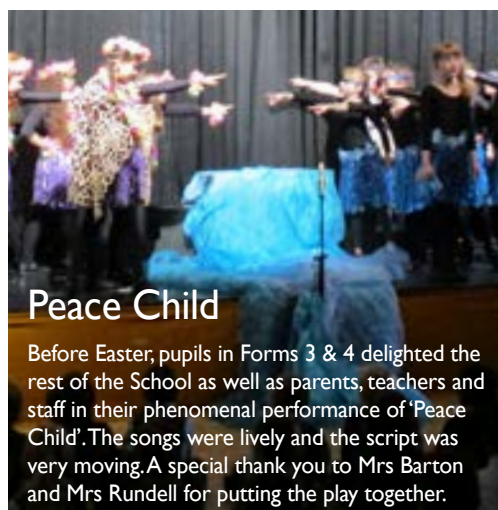
FI Dance Festival

The children in Form I were fortunate to take part in the inaugural IAPS Dance Festival in December. Dressed in bright Christmas jumpers and bobble hats, the boys and girls gave a polished and enthusiastic performance to the tune of "I Love the Snow". The audience loved it and we were delighted to be awarded a trophy. Thank you to Mrs Broome for organising and facilitating our entry, all the parents and friends who came along to cheer the children on the day and Mrs Milne who also came to lend her support. A special mention must go to Mrs McKendrick, who was chief choreographer and did a sterling job making sure the children didn't miss a step!



House Music Festival

Our annual House Music Competition is always a delight, and this year was no different! The winners of the competition for 2017 were Moreton House. Many thanks to our fabulous music team for putting together this super event!



Peace Child

Before Easter, pupils in Forms 3 & 4 delighted the rest of the School as well as parents, teachers and staff in their phenomenal performance of 'Peace Child'. The songs were lively and the script was very moving. A special thank you to Mrs Barton and Mrs Rundell for putting the play together.



Ye-Ha! Form 5 & Form 6 Play

At the end of our academic year, pupils in Forms 5 & 6 delighted us all with their action packed and witty performance of the play, Ye-Ha. The show really captured the Wild West and was enjoyed by all. The audience roared with laughter throughout the play. Thanks to Mrs Hughes, Mrs Wood, and Mrs Smith for producing such a fabulous show!

Sporting Glory



It has been a busy sporting year, as ever, with the children taking part in a wide range of sport including netball, hockey, cricket, athletics, football, cross country, fencing, judo, gymnastics, tennis and rounders, to name but a few. This year the children have competed against many schools from the local area including Stockport Grammar School, Beech Hall, Terra Nova, Pownall Hall and Bridgewater School.



ISA Cross-Country Championships

In February, WPS travelled to Beech House School in Rochdale to compete in the ISA Junior Cross-Country Championships. Just like last year, the conditions were very muddy, but it was thoroughly enjoyable and a great experience for all.



Cricket Masterclass

West Indies cricket legend and a player for Lancashire, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, came to Wimslow Prep to host a cricket masterclass. This was a unique and super experience for the children, who enjoyed learning how to bat, bowl and field with a cricket expert.



Run for Fun

In October, 16 children in the Juniors competed in the Annual Run for Fun held at WRFC. There were some great individual performances, with Emily in Form 4 finishing in an impressive 4th position against a strong field of fellow cross country runners.

National ISA Gymnastics Competition



In February, a team of four eager gymnasts travelled to Adcote School in Shropshire to take part in the 14th National ISA Gymnastics Competition. The children competed in four rounds of gymnastics which were set floor, voluntary floor, set vault and voluntary vault. The team finished in a very creditable 12th place in the team event against very strong competition from all around the country. A thoroughly enjoyable day where our girls excelled in representing WPS.



En Garde

In the Autumn Term, children from F3 to F6 enjoyed learning the basics of fencing with our expert from JF Education. Fencing is an Olympic Sport and is ideal for athletic development at the fundamental stage, so the skills our pupils are learning are invaluable.

Swimming Gala

In November, a group of excited swimmers arrived at Macclesfield Leisure Centre to compete on behalf of WPS in the ISA North Swimming Gala. Laura finished a fantastic 3rd in her breaststroke heat and finished 8th overall. Ameerah, Emily, Olivia, Gaby, Elizabeth and Isabella, also swam extremely well in their heats. Many thanks to Mrs Rigby and Mrs Teare who came along on the day and helped to manage the team and to Mrs Broome who was a place judge. A great afternoon of swimming, which the children all thoroughly enjoyed.

“PrepTalk”

Summer 2017



Art Exhibition

Wilmslow Prep hosted their very own art exhibition last November, in which a framed piece of art work, produced by every child from Kindergarten to Form 6, was on display. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to showcase the talents of all the children and for parents and family members to view the fantastic work, in a gallery style set up. We would like to thank 'Images' for framing the work and organising the event, together with Mrs Anderson, Mrs Milne and our Early Years teachers for their hard work in managing and supporting this delightful event.



ISA National Art Competition 2016

Every year Wilmslow Prep puts forward entries for the Independent Schools Association (ISA) National Art competition. It provides schools, such as ours, with a wonderful opportunity to showcase our children's art work and for teachers to share best practice and ideas.

Wilmslow Prep were awarded a staggering 6 first prizes in the regional competition across EYFS, KS1 and KS2; 2 second prizes and 2 'Highly Commended' prizes. Congratulations to Lilia in Form 5 who achieved national success, coming 2nd place overall, with her award winning sculpture. Many thanks to Mrs Anderson and Mrs Milne for their hard work in helping the children to develop their artistic skills.

Parent Committee

Donna Henry, Felicity Brassington and the rest of the Parents' Committee have put in another amazing year of hard work, pulling out all the stops to enhance the WPS community for both pupils and their families. Some of the activities sponsored by the P.C. this year were: Valentine's Disco, Christmas Fair, Afternoon Tea, Movie Afternoon, Big Breakfast, and of course, the wonderful Summer Ball. Many thanks to everyone for their support and we look forward to enjoying similarly successful events next year.



Happy Birthday Wilmslow Prep

On 23rd September, Wilmslow Prep School celebrated its 107th birthday. It is tradition to mark the event with handmade cards, and, of course, a cake. Our picture shows the F6 Ambassadors with our oldest pupils in the centre and some of our youngest children at the front. We all sang Happy Birthday at our special birthday assembly.



Author Visits

This year, we have been very lucky to have two authors visit the Prep. In the autumn term, we welcomed popular Australian author, Jacqueline Harvey. She only makes one trip a year to the UK and we were very lucky that she decided to visit our School. She talked to the children about life as an author; answered their questions, introduced her two series of books, and was also kind enough to sign some of them for the children. In the summer term, Jarvis visited our School and his theatrical story telling of his wonderful children's books excited us all! Thanks to Simply Books in Bramhall for helping to organise these visits.