

# Newsletter



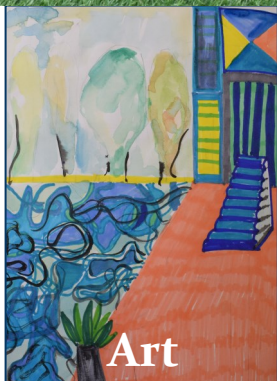
PARSONS GREEN PREP

Summer edition - July 2021

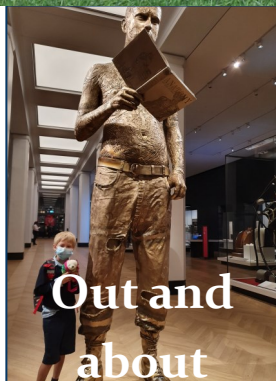
[www.parsonsgreenprep.co.uk](http://www.parsonsgreenprep.co.uk)



Performances



Art



Out and about



In the classroom



Events



# HEADMASTER'S MESSAGE



## FROM THE HEAD

This has been the most challenging year but we have emerged stronger and better. Buffeted by Covid-19 and ever-changing regulations, we have found reserves of steel and imagination we may never have known we had. The staff here are wonderful, nimble on their feet and able to adapt to anything. It is not just online learning but the ability to keep the extra-curricular show on the road. But to a man on a galloping horse it has appeared to be business as usual and the children have loved everything they have done.

**Mr Matthew Faulkner**



## FRIENDS OF PARSONS GREEN PREP

Unfortunately the only event this term was the secondhand uniform sale. FOPGP was happy to treat the children and staff to an ice cream to celebrate the end of term. We are looking towards the autumn already and planning a school fair, movie night and hopefully many more fun activities. Thank you to the parents, teachers and staff for your continued support in our lovely school community.

**Mrs Heather Goertzen**



## HOUSE CUP RESULTS

Mid-term reminders about table manners and general courtesy saw a flurry of points earned in the final stretch. After a ding-dong battle between Nightingale and Livingstone it was the latter who emerged victorious and helped themselves to the school's biggest trophy. Congratulations Livingstone!



# THE ARTS

## ART

The art room has been bursting with creativity. The children have used a variety of mediums and experimented with mark making, colour, pattern and texture and most of them have had the opportunity to develop their observational drawing skills. They have produced an array of exciting, fabulous work including rainforest collages, Tudor miniature watercolours and clay roses, charcoal WW2 drawings, Greek column chalk drawings and models and graffiti-inspired canvasses.



## KS2 PERFORMANCES

The Key Stage 2 productions hit the silver screen this term with each year group recording their work online. Year 3 buzzed with their Bee show while Year 4's 'Wow What a Year!' sang and danced us through the travails of lockdown, from masks to online learning. Year 5's extravaganza took the same theme while Year 6 splattered virtual custard pies in their excellent Buggy. It was a real challenge for the teachers and performers to switch from stage to screen at short notice but the shows just had to go on. Congratulations to everyone!



## MUSIC

If you wandered through the corridors this term you may have heard some hefty percussion from Year 1, excellent round singing in Year 2, a fine mash-up of space music and Britney Spears from Reception and some wacky computer game compositions from Year 3 on the xylophone. Year 6 learned about the influence of music on the drama in film and while Year 5 were staving some quavers, Year 4 produced an epic rap battle.



# OUT AND ABOUT

## THE LOOKOUT, HYDE PARK

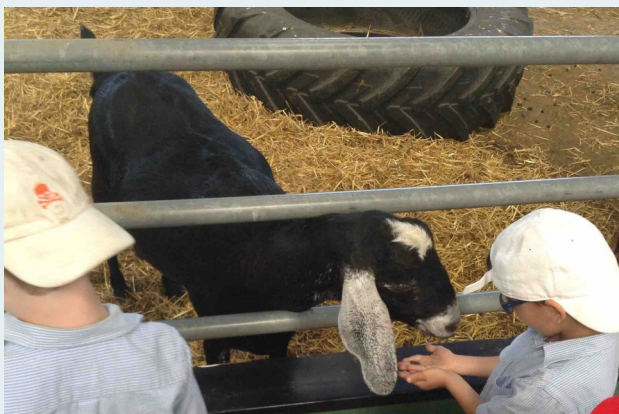
On a windy May day Year 2 visited The Lookout, tucked away within the idyllic setting of Hyde Park. The children partook in a minibeast hunt to bring to life their science topic. They found an array of creepy crawlies and, to their delight, even discovered a toad hidden under a log! The children then spotted the earlier stages of the life cycle in the form of tadpoles when pond dipping. If you visit Hyde Park this summer, keep your eyes peeled for toadlets.



## LONDON WETLAND CENTRE

Year 5 had a wonderful trip to the London Wetland Centre this term. The children searched ponds for animals and found nymphs, newts and speckled back fish. The day culminated in eating our lunch outside and trying not to feed the various birds with our leftovers crumbs. The children walked from school to the centre and back and we made sure we added our step total to the Walk To The Amazon challenge we were doing. Can you spot the otter?





### BOCKETTS FARM

Reception had a wonderful time at Bocketts Farm and the children were very well behaved. We started by petting some furry friends and meeting Muffin the horse, who was styling a plaited mane. The children ventured into the tractor for a bumpy ride around the llama and sheep fields and back to spy on the sty full of pigs. After lunch we fed some sheep, goats and cows with little pellets and watched the sheep being sheared. A great day out.



### HAMPTON COURT PALACE

Year 3 think Henry VIII certainly had an impressive house. The gardens were heavenly, helped by the hot weather. We saw the vegetable gardens and explored the old, smoky kitchens that would turn these vegetables (plus a lot of meat) into delicious buffets for the Tudor nobles and the King. The Great Hall was exquisitely decorated, with enormous tapestries hanging from the ceilings and beautiful stained glass windows. It was a truly impressive day, which gave us an unforgettable insight into Tudor life.

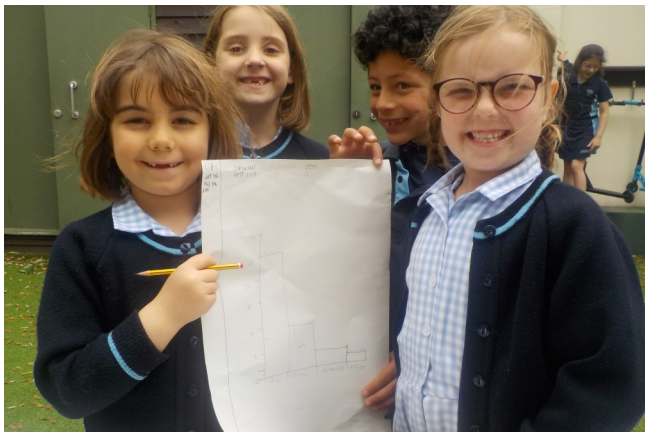
### THE THAMES ROCKET

After what we'd all agree hasn't been the post-exam adventure Year 6 would usually get, we have still managed to go on a couple of trips, one being the Thames Rocket. And it was seriously fun. We caught the speedboat at Pier One below the London Eye and were taken on a sightseeing, fact-finding extravaganza of London, with the addition of high-speed chases and music to accompany us. And Miss Phoebe bought ice creams for everyone!





# STEAM SUBJECTS



## MATHS

The children applied their mathematical thinking to environmental issues during Ecomaths Day. Key Stage 1 discussed plastic pollution and counted recycled plastic. Key Stage 2 used all four calculations to solve problems like car usage. The problems generated excellent discussions about how we can be more sustainable, while also emphasising the importance of maths in everyday life. A special mention to Year 6, who became entrepreneurs this term, having established four businesses with loans to repay, calculating costs, profit margins and percentage of sales!



## YOUNG ENGINEERS' LEGO CLUB

The Young Engineers LEGO Club was back, with the children once again able to explore fun aspects of engineering by building LEGO models. Topics included washing machines and centrifugal force (we even put some miniature wet laundry inside to see how it worked), transmission housings in street sweepers (pictured) and even a motorised easel where we could also exhibit our artistic skills. Whether it was cranes, conveyor belts or rollover cars, everyone had fun building with Young Engineers' customised kit and learning about how things work.



## STEAM OVERVIEW

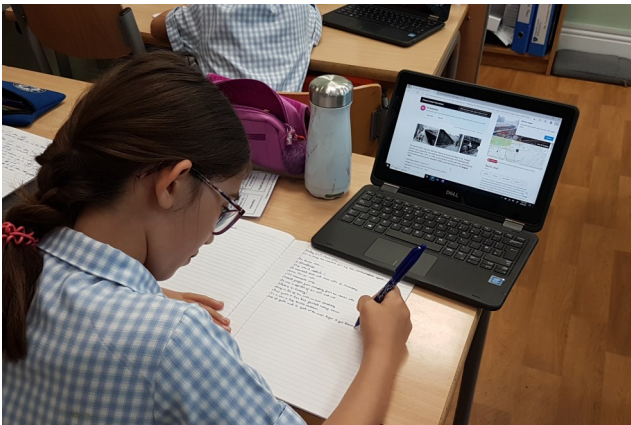
It has been full STEAM ahead this term and not just in our STEAM lessons; the engineering-design process is evident in all we do. Reception have been analysing their creations and seeking advice from their friends to make them more effective. Year 1 have been preparing for a pirate voyage while Year 2 designed and wrote a shadow puppet show which they performed for their class assembly. In KS2, children have been writing, directing and filming, constructing Tudor houses and designing playgrounds.





## CHESS

It's wonderful to have both Chess Clubs full again, back at their chessboards and playing outside in the sunshine (whenever possible). In Chess Gambits we have focussed on piece-development, taking control of the centre of the board and castling. There have been some impressive matches. Chesslings Club (Years 1-2) has begun with a mix of high enthusiasm and an eagerness to learn. To the moves and piece-point values, we have added basic tactics. Interest in chess has never been higher!

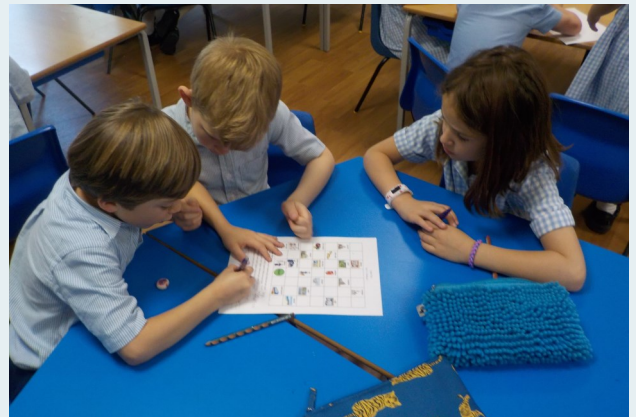


## COMPUTING

This term the children have used search engines to gather information for non-chronological reports in Year 4. Year 6 used their computing skills to aid their Enterprise projects, working with tools that, until relatively recently, were the domain of professionals. They calculated profits and losses with an Excel spreadsheet. On French Day, the whole school also took part in the Kahoot quiz, a game played by the whole class just like the ones we see on TV.

## ENIGMA DAY

In celebration of Alan Turing's birthday, his contributions to Britain and his debut on the new fifty-pound note, we held a school-wide code-breaking challenge event, aptly named Enigma Day. Each class faced three tailored puzzles that included a mix of challenges and famous ciphers throughout history, from the Caesar cipher to the Vigenère cipher. The children adored stretching their problem-solving skills and, of course, receiving a prized visit to the FOPGP-sponsored ice cream van at the end.





# IN THE CLASSROOM



## RECEPTION

The children have all grown into confident and happy little learners, with core skills required for Year 1. They have learnt to understand themselves and respect each other. We saw the magical transformation of chicks and butterflies and we covered inspiring topics such as superheroes, fairy tales and firefighters. The children have embedded strong reading, writing and maths skills from everyday practice at school. We feel very proud of the progress they have made this year.



## YEAR 1

The children have been learning about pirates. We performed a wonderful assembly sharing key facts about pirates and learnt about some famous pirates in our creative curriculum lessons. In STEAM lessons we designed our own pirate ships. First, we devised a plan and then we used junk modelling to make our ships. We made our pirate flags symmetrical to link into our maths learning and created some nutritious meals for the pirates to take on their voyage.



## YEAR 2

Delving into the Amazon rainforest for their topic, Year 2 objectively considered deforestation before producing unbiased news reports. In computing, they composed tunes to accompany their reports, carefully considering the emotions evoked. Maths this term has provided opportunities for collaboration through practical time and measurement problems. Meanwhile, studying the ever-popular story of Lila and the Secret of Rain strengthened the children's inference and independent writing skills. Year 2's engaging and heartfelt letters to Lila were a joy to read.



## YEAR 3

This term we watched caterpillars turn into butterflies, babysat Reception's chicks, made Tudor houses in STEAM and performed the musical of a lifetime – The Bee Musical. In maths we became masters of time, we revised the four operations and we used Excel to learn more about data and formulae. In English the children impressed Miss Beth with an informative caterpillar life cycle text and an emotional Tudor diary entry. This ended the year on a high - well done everyone.





## YEAR 4

Our main topic was World War 2 and we experienced a very exciting workshop day where we handled real artefacts and learnt so much about different aspects of the war. In English we read *The Selfish Giant* by Oscar Wilde and wrote diary entries, letters and recounts from different character's perspectives. We enjoyed planning, making and evaluating boats in STEAM, too. Our production was the highlight of this term - Year 4 have done an absolutely fantastic job.



## YEAR 5

We all got through this strange year together which made us more cohesive and feel like a team. In our lessons we really enjoyed learning about the Victorians. We studied rivers and the Ancient Greeks in our topics and the year ended with our 5R performance. Never before have the Ancient Greeks worked so well alongside Madonna's Holiday! Working hard has paid off as we now all feel positive and enthusiastic about our upcoming 11+ exams. Have a lovely summer 5R.



## YEAR 6

The children managed to squeeze in a few great trips and activities including Go Ape, the Science Museum, bubble football and their favourite, the Thames Rocket (a speedboat tour, which they highly recommend). In class Miss Phoebe has had everyone working on the Enterprise projects, creating a whopping profit for Place2Be, a children's mental health charity. The children have also enjoyed learning First Aid skills and the uses of the oceans in their topic.



## LE FRENCH PROGRAMME

Bonjour! What a fantastic year at the French Programme. Based on a range of fun, creative and academic activities, Reception and Year 1 have explored and developed the French language through poems, songs and stories. Congratulations to all Miss Claude's students from Year 2 to Year 6 for an excellent academic year and for their help in running the French Café. Please contact [info@lefrenchprogramme.com](mailto:info@lefrenchprogramme.com) if you want to join next year (one French-speaking parent is required at home).



# SPORT

## CRICKET

Children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 have been taking part in cricket lessons on our on-site Astro-Turf. They have enjoyed learning, particularly batting. KS2 have resumed their cricket lessons at Hurlingham Park and cricket fixtures have returned. The highlight of the term was the Year 5/6 match against Redcliffe School, where the children posted excellent 97 and 83-run victories. All KS2 children have had a chance to represent the school in fixtures and it has been excellent to see the development of cricket at PGP.



## TENNIS

Tennis has been a popular part of the PE programme this term. All children have been participating in tennis lessons at school. Morning tennis club, which takes place every day, gives the children the opportunity to put their tennis skills into matches. The children have enjoyed some competitive internal matches, which has shown excellent sportsmanship and enthusiasm for the sport, highlighting the competitive nature of the children in all year groups. Well done to all those that have participated.



## SWIMMING

This term has seen the return of swimming lessons on a Friday morning at Fulham Virgin Active Fitness Club to all children in KS2. The children have enjoyed returning to swimming and have been making good progress with their technique and confidence has continued to grow. A big thank you to the Fulham Virgin Active Swimming team for providing outstanding swimming lessons. We look forward to more swimming lessons in September and the return of the annual competition.



## AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

The Chelsea Foundation has continued to deliver their outstanding provision, offering after-school clubs to all ages at PGP. Football is a popular pastime of the children and is played every break-time. We look forward to football fixtures returning next term. Miss Beth has continued to deliver her Hockey All Stars programme to children in Years 5 and 6. The children have been practising the fundamental skills of hockey and implementing them in small sides games. It has been excellent to see the progression of hockey at PGP since it was introduced in September 2019.



## SPORTS DAY

This year saw a different format to sports day with several different events being run over the last week of term. Reception and Years 1 and 2 competed in a 20/40m sprint, sack race and egg and spoon race. Reception started proceedings with their first sports day on our on-site AstroTurf. Years 1 and 2 travelled to Hurlingham Park for the first time. KS2 competed in the 50/60m sprint, hurdles and throwing competition. The children really entered into the spirit of the events - well done to everybody.



# EVENTS

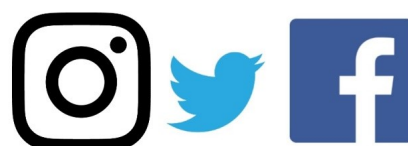
## YEAR 6 GRADUATION

Saying goodbye to our leavers was as bitter-sweet as ever this year. With many in the group tracing their PGP roots all the way back to Reception, there was a multitude of memories to rekindle and enjoy. Held outside on the astro, attention focussed both on the children and on the inspirational Miss Phoebe, who has guided them for the last two years. The love and affection between everyone involved in Year 6 was plain to hear. We wish them all the very best at their next schools and for the future.



## CHARITY ROUND-UP

The PGP community took part in Rainforest Concern's active challenge to clock up a total of 8,260km to Manaus, Brazil, without using carbon fuel and we raised £288 for them. Year 6 was our entrant for Fulham's Got Talent, performing their excellent a capella version of The Rhythm of Life outside the gates and generating £153 for the NSPCC. And Year 6's Enterprise projects (personalised stationery, hair braiding and keyrings, a photo booth and bracelets), made a tremendous profit of £395 for Place2Be.



## SOCIAL

Don't forget to follow us on social media for the latest news and activities around the school.

Twitter: @pgpschoollondon

Facebook: @ParsonsGreenPrep

Instagram: @parsonsgreenprep

And do check out the news section of the new school website at [www.parsonsgreenprep.co.uk](http://www.parsonsgreenprep.co.uk).

**HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER HOLIDAY!**