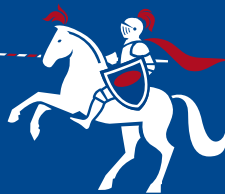


ISSUE 13
Sept 21

KNIGHT'S TALES



WELCOME FROM THE HEAD



It was a welcome surprise to have glorious weather for the Year 6 Prize Giving and Leavers' Picnics. We had moved the celebrations outside in line with Covid restrictions which meant that their parents could also enjoy this very special occasion. The Pavillion was a fitting backdrop and there was a lovely atmosphere for the children to mark the end of their time at Chandlings Prep.

It has been a demanding year and I am grateful to every member of staff. Grateful does not really cover it, I am indebted to be honest, for the manner in which they have negotiated the past 18 months. They have shown such spirit, kindness and energy to ensure that we have continued to provide an exciting online as well as live education for the children.

PATCH and the parent representatives organised the Staff Appreciation Day at the end of term and we were overwhelmed by the generous gifts and thoughtful gestures. It really highlighted the warm relationships that make Chandlings Prep such a special place.

The end of the year means that some colleagues move on and I would like to specifically mention Richard Hancock and Hannah Hopkins who, between them, have given over 35 years of dedicated teaching at Chandlings. Throughout this time they have touched the lives of so many children and we thank them for their enormous contribution.

I wish you all a very happy holiday.

Christine Cook



PRIZE GIVING AND YEAR 6 LEAVERS' LUNCH

As always the Year 6 Prize Giving ceremony is a wonderful and emotional event celebrating the achievements of all our Year 6 children. We bid farewell to our leavers and wish them every success in their new schools.



2021 Cup Awards

- McGrigor Cup for Creative Writing - Emmeline P.
- Chandlings Cup for Excellence in Mathematics - Jaya H.
- Chandlings Cup for Excellence in Science - Jean-François V-C
- Good Musicianship Cup - Pratiba S.
- The McGill Cup for Art - Freya O.





WELLBEING AND FEEL GOOD FRIDAY

Wellbeing is integral to the school and we continue to promote positive mental health so that our children leave us as confident and happy individuals ready to take on any challenges. We have embedded an ethos where mental health and emotional wellbeing is regarded as the responsibility of all. We are very proud to have been shortlisted in the category of Student Wellbeing in the Independent Schools of the Year awards. Finalists will be announced in September.

During lockdown we began Fitness Friday with Mr Allison's fitness video being sent out to all the children. Now we are back in school this has developed into Feel Good Friday with the children exercising every Friday morning to get the endorphins flowing ready for the school day.

LAMDA - CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL OF PERFORMING ARTS

The 2021 Cheltenham Festival of Performing Arts was held in the beautiful venue of Pittville Pump Room, and offered performance spaces which really tested the young competitors' lung power and ability to project! Although group and paired classes were cancelled this year due to CV19 restrictions, there were still over 400 candidates in the Drama disciplines. The nine Chandlings representatives did brilliantly to not only compete with such talent and ability but to take home some of the much-coveted medals and trophies.

The Festival movement exists to allow performers to celebrate their potential, to test themselves against their peers and to receive personalised feedback from international experts: the learning experience is considerable and everyone who participated has mentioned how much they learned from their day of competition. However, that so many of our entrants received such high marks and even placements is a real testament not only to their performance talents, but their ability to listen to advice and spend time polishing their work.

"I am beyond proud of all of them and so appreciative to the parents who attended for their support," said Rebecca Vines, LAMDA teacher.

Verse Speaking Rosie T. - Trophy Rosie T. - Gold Medal Zach B. - Silver Medal Elisabeth L. - Silver Medal Tom L. - Silver Medal Katherine S. - Silver Medal Anur N. - Bronze Medal Maya B. - Honours Amelie T. - Distinction	Solo Acting Maya B. - Silver Medal Katherine S. - Bronze Medal Elisabeth L. - Honours Anur N. - Honours Arran B. - Distinction Amelie T. - Distinction Rosie T. - Distinction
Junior Mime Anur N. - Gold Medal	Public Speaking Anur N. - Silver Medal
Shakespeare Elisabeth L. - Distinction	Prose Reading Amelie T. - Silver Medal Rosie T. - Bronze Medal Maya B. - Honours Katherine S. - Honours



We would also like to congratulate all our students who took the LAMDA exams in March. Every single student achieved a Distinction which is a fantastic result.



FAREWELL TO PETE

After 16 years Pete Thomas, Chandlings' amazing caretaker aka 'Mr Fix It' decided that the time had finally come to hang up his hammer, paint brush and plunger for a quieter life of retirement. Pete started at Chandlings in 2004 joining his wife Barbie and nothing was ever too much trouble for him from clearing floods to building bike sheds. We gave him a 'Covid friendly' send off with a tunnel of children and teachers cheering him on towards his retirement. Thank you for everything you have done Pete and enjoy the peace and quiet!

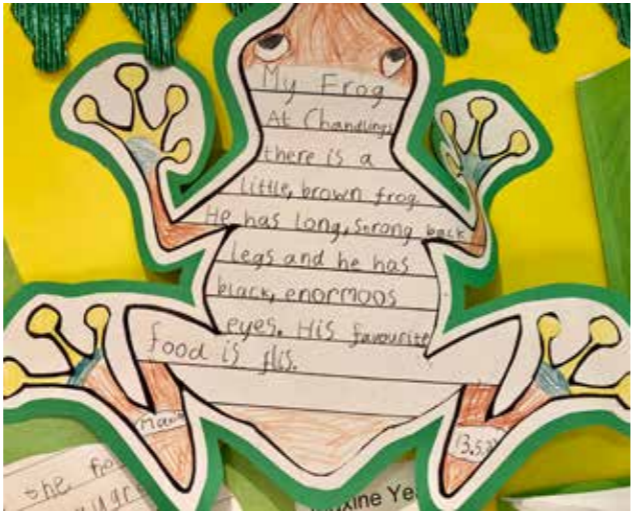


FROGS TAKE OVER CHANDLINGS

No not really! But, this term we had a whole school book project organised by Mrs Philip, Head of English, using the picture book Tuesday by David Wiesner. In the picture book, frogs take flight and explore their local environment, unnoticed by humans. The frogs appeared in some very strange places around the school! All the children from Reception through to Year 6 used the book and the sightings as inspiration for some very exciting creative writing, illustrating how their writing progresses as they get older.

The theme of frogs was also used for cross-curricular learning. Children enjoyed pond dipping in their science lesson learning about reproduction and life-cycles of amphibians. During art lessons some fantastic ceramic frogs and tadpoles were created. Even Nursery were involved, learning all about the life cycles of frogs; they visited the pontoon and went pond dipping for the first time ever!

"It was wonderful to see the whole school engaged in a shared learning experience," said Mrs Philip. "The children were clearly inspired by the picture book and the mysterious amphibian sightings across the school. They produced a fabulous selection of imaginative writing for a variety of purposes."



PRE-PREP ART

Reception have been experimenting with tissue paper and sugar paper to create beautiful butterflies using collage. Continuing with our natural theme the children collected various sticks, leaves and other items which they arranged on paper and then sprayed with paint to create brilliant nature pictures.



Reception have been talking about letters in Art and had a go at making their own initials in sequins.



Year 1 have spent time looking and learning about the life and work of Vincent Van Gogh. Using acrylic paint they tried to emulate his unique brush stroke style to create their own version of his 'Starry Night' painting.



Year 2 made some wonderful froggy tiles using terracotta clay. They used ink based watercolours to paint them and PVA glue to give them a glossy finish.



Year 3 have been working on their observational drawing skills this year. We looked at the artist Ken Done and learnt how to draw Tower Bridge



Year 1 have loved learning about space and making different space themed art projects. We have used pastels, paints, crayons and glitter to create the planets and tin foil to create texture in paint for the sun. They have also used various materials to create some wonderful looking rockets.



Year 2 were inspired by Ms Cook's Bee assembly and had a go at using bubble wrap to print a honeycomb style background. Then using cardboard and some black paint they created some wonderful bees to add on.

PREP ART

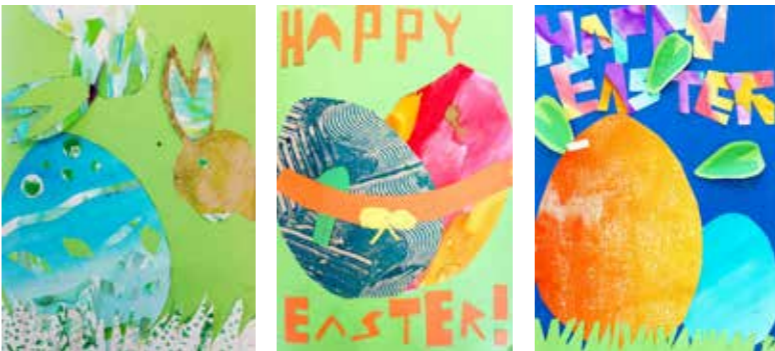
Year 3 took advantage of the warm weather to sketch some of our beautiful grounds using graphite.



Year 4 constructed these paper towers using strips of paper, they could only use circle or teardrop shapes. The towers had to balance by themselves so the Year 4's had to think creatively and do lots of problem-solving.



Year 5 made these colourful Easter cards at the end of the Spring Term. They created lots of different patterns and textures using acrylic paints and used the painted paper to cut out shapes and letters to collage on to the cards.



Year 6's made some amazing props for the school play using Modroc, papier-mâché, and realistic painting techniques. The backdrop to the stage was painted in the style of the well-known British artist David Hockney.



Year 4 made these 3D plates of their favourite foods, using cardboard, newspaper, tissue, and PVA glue.



Year 5 have been looking at sustainability and how we can support biodiversity in the school grounds. They have been working hard to create a 'Toad Life-cycle' to contribute to the sculpture trail. Ceramic tadpoles, toadlets, and toads will be installed near one of the ponds.



NURSERY EASTER HATS AND TADPOLES

Our Nursery children have had lots of fun this term including visiting the pontoon for the first time and fishing for tadpoles. They spotted hundreds of them and when they got back to the Lavender Courtyard they learnt all about the lifecycle of a frog. They also got very creative with their fantastic Easter Hats which they wore for their annual Easter Hat Parade judged by Ms Cook, Mrs Love and Mrs McAloon.



RECEPTION PIRATES DAY

There was much excitement when our Reception children came into school dressed as pirates last week. The morning began with a 'pirate themed' assembly. All the children had to visit 4 islands based on Chandlings values - Kindness Island, Sharing Island, Listening Island and Perseverance Island. On each island they found a key which opened the treasure chest on Perseverance Island (as they had persevered to get there!). The treasure chest opened, to the children's surprise, revealing a helium balloon inviting them all to a pirate lunch. They ended the assembly performing their pirate song.

The pirate lunch of fish and chips was eaten around a pirate ship where all the placemats were treasure maps that the children had made the day before.

'It's been such a challenging year for all our children,' said Mrs Dawkins and Mrs Wimborne, 'and we wanted to end it with a really fun day that they will treasure and remember.'



YEAR 1 BLAST INTO SPACE

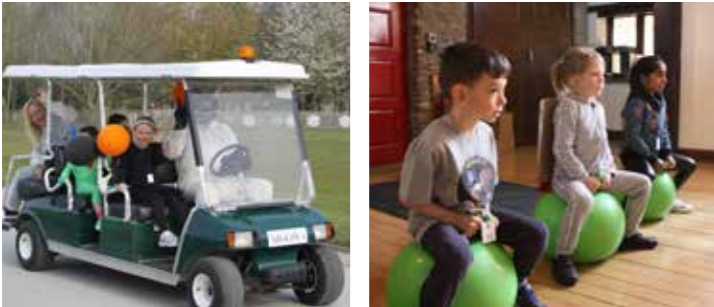
For Year 1 children the Summer Term began with an ‘out of this world’ space adventure experience day, as they zoomed off on their topic launch of ‘Our Place in Space’! On Wednesday 21 April the children were invited to arrive at school dressed as astronauts or aliens before receiving their astronaut lanyard for the day.

They started their mission by jetting off into Space on a moon buggy, then space hopped their way through the twinkling stars, before zooming through a space tunnel to arrive at the Chandlings Space Station HQ!

The children loved manning the control deck of the Space Station to ensure a smooth journey for all into Outer Space and there were many exciting conversations to be heard from the Space Rocket tent. They also enjoyed developing their artistic flair creating rockets and planets using coloured sand and scratch art. Lunch was a delicious feast of meaty, meatball meteorites served appropriately in foil containers. The children ended their special day with a bag of Space goodies to take home!

During the course of the term the children will explore a variety of stories with a Space theme in English lessons. The children will develop an awareness of the past involving the history of Space Travel. They will explore the difficulties humans face when travelling to Space and learn about animals that have been to Space. The children will have opportunities for independent study to learn more about the life of a significant individual such as Neil Armstrong, Yuri Gagarin or Dr. Valentina Tereshkova.

“Space is a really exciting topic and with the recent arrival of the NASA rover on Mars it is also very current and relevant. We always try to bring our topics to life and with the difficult year we have had we wanted to make our Space launch really exciting for all our Year 1 children,” said Mrs Hopkins and Mrs Hook the Year 1 teachers.



YEAR 2 GO CRAZY AT THEIR MAD HATTER’S TEA PARTY

During the Easter Term the topic for Year 2 was ‘Oxford Through the Looking Glass’ where they explored various historic buildings in our city. They learnt about the history of Oxford castle, why Oxford was a good place to settle, the history of Oxford University and the royalty who lived here, King Henry VIII and his link to Christ Church Cathedral and even what real tennis is.

In our two abridged versions of Alice in Wonderland, and Alice Through the Looking Glass the children escaped into these magical lands, wrote about their own unusual characters, designed their own wonderlands and wrote their very own adventure stories.

The Mad Hatter’s Tea Party was their final celebration and what a celebration it was! The children were so surprised to see the dining hall decked out like the crazy tea party in Alice in Wonderland.





YEAR 3 CURATE THEIR OWN MINI-MUSEUMS

Year 3 had great fun sharing their Mini-Museums. It was a real treat to see the effort and enthusiasm which went into curating each and every project. It really felt like a trip to a museum! There was a diverse range of topics covered including friendship, fossils, dragons, The Beano, otters, and lamb's wool. The children stood up and presented their museum giving us many facts and interesting things to think about. We even had a raffle and a couple of small handmade gifts to take home. We had lots of special people visit the museums including the Year 2 children who came to see what they have to look forward to next year.

The overall winners voted by the teachers, teaching assistants and the pupils for their excellent museums were Sienna H, Miya I, Hugo H, and Katherine S - congratulations!



YEAR 4 GET INSPIRED FROM THE OUTDOORS

Year 4 enjoyed the English theme week based on the story, Tuesday by David Wiesner. To help the children plan their ideas we walked around the school grounds discussing the five senses and considered how we could incorporate them into their writing. We visited Bluebell Woods, the ponds, the stables and the goats. We then thought about the different adventures that a variety of animals might have in the grounds of Chandlings through the night just as the frogs experienced in the picture book.'



YEAR 3 AND 4 POETRY RECITAL COMPETITION

At the beginning of this term, there was great anticipation for our Poetry Recital competition for the Year 3 and 4 children! Over the Easter holidays, the children were asked to learn a poem of their choice to recite off by heart. After lots of practise two children from each group were chosen to recite their poem to the whole year group. From these, a winner and a runner up were picked by a panel of expert judges.





YEAR 6 FRENCH WEEK

This Summer Term we couldn't take our Year 6 children to France so instead we brought France to Chandlings with the Y6 French Experience Week. The week was packed with a variety of French-themed activities beginning with baking French bread demonstrated by Monsieur Jean Pierre Gilet, a French baker. On Tuesday they headed into Oxford enjoying team games and a baguette picnic at the University Park followed by a french yoga session led by Barbara, a teacher from Alliance Française.

Wednesday was the 'food' day where the children tasted a variety of cheeses noting down which were the strongest or softest. After a croque-monsieur sandwich for dinner, they had lots of fun bowling at the Kassam Stadium.

Thursday started with an online meeting with our French penpals in Camiers to whom the children have been writing. We had a visit from Freshwater Theatre company who put on a great performance of the Three Musketeers which included the children acting out (in French) some of the scenes.

A typical French market was set up outside in the afternoon, where stalls were run by bilingual parents and alumni. The children had the chance to practise their conversation skills and ask questions to the guests. In the evening they enjoyed watching Nicolas' misfortunes on holiday, a funny French comedy. The week ended with a delicious French breakfast of croissants and pains au chocolat followed by different sessions from Chandlings staff who embraced our French theme for the week. Thank you to Mr. Redman, for the creme brulée, Miss Sharp for the French song, Mrs. Belcher for the mime, Mrs. Prosser for a fabulous Matisse Art project, and Mrs. Palfrey for her insight into World War II from a French perspective.

Overall, the week was a great success and the children gained so much from all the experiences. Their enthusiasm and joie-de-vivre were a pleasure to watch.



YEAR 6 PLAY

MARRYING MARIAN

The Chandlings Theatre Company (aka Year 6) took us off on an adventure to the heart of Sherwood Forest in their thrilling production of Marrying Marian. The mysterious outlaw, Robin Hood, assembled his trusty crew in order to help the poor people of Nottingham and outwit the greedy Prince John. We were dazzled by archery skills, chases through the forest and a medieval banquet provided by Friar Tuck and his friends, not forgetting a rousing May Day dance around the Maypole. Maid Marian ignored the pleas of her Ladies-in-Waiting who seemed intent on swooning over the nearest archer, and asserted her right to seek adventure herself. All was resolved with the return of King Richard who threw his usurper into the palace dungeons. The performers excelled themselves in both their acting and singing, and showed real joy and enthusiasm on stage, and the icing on the cake was a socially-distanced live audience!





YEAR 5 LAND AND WAVE OUTWARD BOUND ADVENTURES

Year 5 set out for their glamping adventure to the Dorset coast in May expecting sunshine and fun. There was lots of fun but not so much sun!



The heavens were heavy with rain and we had sporadic downpours for most of the trip, but this did not dampen spirits. The pupils were amazing, clearly at home in the water, kayaking, boogie boarding and Jumbo paddle boarding were taken in their stride. Whether a new skill for them or something they've tried before, they looked like seasoned professionals.

On Monday we did boogie boarding and jumbo paddle boarding at North beach in Swanage. There were loads of games played and waves caught before returning to camp for showers and evening sports of rounders and Capture the Flag.



On Tuesday we had a fantastic morning kayaking at Wareham Lakes. Catapult making and firing took place later. This involved rather a lot of knot tying which was not their forte!

Thankfully, weather wise, the rain was interspersed with some lovely sunshine which really helped. A cracking STEM egg challenge made pupils think outside the box and led to some interesting contraptions being made to protect the egg. The teachers were disqualified as their egg, after surviving the drop, was suspiciously warm to touch as if it had been hard boiled, but the jury is still out on that one.



Our final morning was slightly slower-paced. The pupils attempted archery and fire lighting activities in a wood a short walk from camp, which were great fun before our return back to school.



Life lessons in resilience, teamwork, positivity and independence were aplenty with fantastic memories for years to come.



YEAR 6 CAMP AND BARFIELD TRIP

Day 1

Well thank you for the weather (for the most part!) Tents were set up and the children were ready for some orienteering. Armed with maps, compasses and written instructions they set off in groups for the short 6km route - they all managed to get back! Later on they enjoyed playing 40/40 followed by their house swim gala. The camp fire was lit and the BBQ ready for when they got back. Before they tucked into their supper they played Taskmaster which was a real hit. Mr Clarke stood atop the mound shouting at children through the megaphone (a favourite pastime of his!) and the pupils loved it! Supper was devoured and then the rain set in...

Day 2

The children set off to Barfield (another Trust School) for the day taking part in totem pole challenges, some aeroball as well as high and low ropes. Real encouragement, teamwork and communication was the order of the day. The sun returned as we headed back to camp - a busy night was had with more Taskmaster, the BBQ and the Disco along with a bit of Euro Football thrown in!

Day 3

A lovely relaxed morning with some clouds but no rain was a welcome site. We cleared camp and then enjoyed some boules, cricket and free time. Lunch was followed by an ice cream from the Mr Whippy Van and we then headed into the Bluebell woods for some low ropes and den building.

So many thank yous to so many staff for making the Year 6 Camp such an unforgettable experience for all our leavers.



SCIENCE/STEM

YEAR 1 EXPLORE THE MOON.

Year 1 have been using their knowledge of materials and forces to design and create a Moon buggy. They learnt about wheels, axles and friction to create these amazing vehicles.

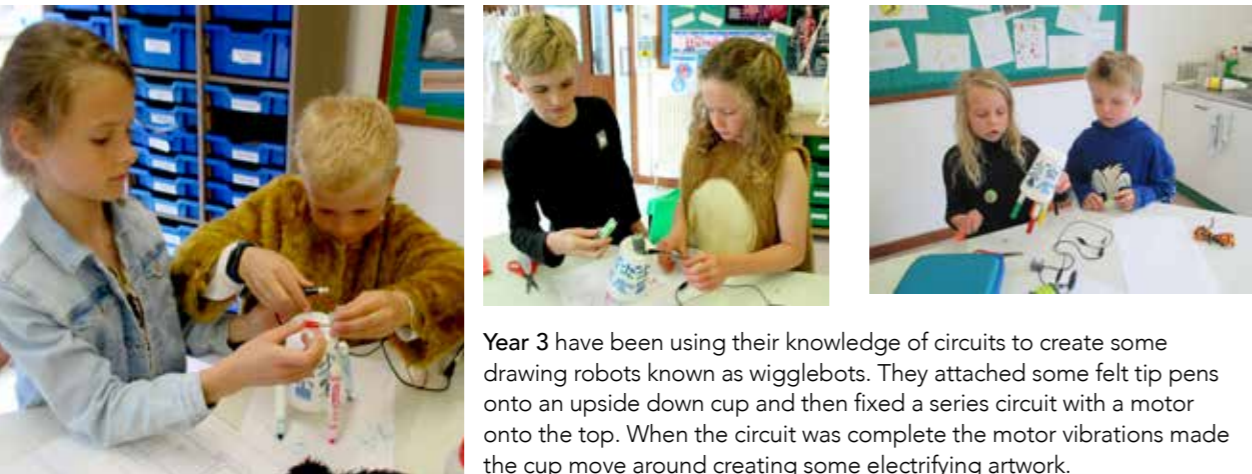


YEAR 2 GO UP, UP AND AWAY.



Year 2 learnt about the properties of materials to create and design a basket for a hot air balloon and explored forces with newspaper kites. They thought carefully about 3D shapes and their nets, as well as the forces that would be acting on them.

YEAR 3 GET WIGGLING.



Year 3 have been using their knowledge of circuits to create some drawing robots known as wobblebots. They attached some felt tip pens onto an upside down cup and then fixed a series circuit with a motor onto the top. When the circuit was complete the motor vibrations made the cup move around creating some electrifying artwork.

SCIENCE/STEM

YEAR 4 FLOAT AWAY.

Year 4 have designed and built rafts using natural materials. They had to think carefully about forces and developed their knot tying skills. They tested their rafts to see which design was best at floating.



YEAR 5 CAN SEE AROUND CORNERS.

Year 5 have been learning about light, the eye and mirrors. They needed to measure angles, score cards, cut and fold carefully, as well as applying their learnt knowledge in order to make their periscopes. They then used their periscopes to see over surfaces and peep around corners.



YEAR 6 REACH FOR THE STARS

Year 6 used their engineering skills to design and make the tallest structure using just newspaper and masking tape. Some teams managed to get their tower to be over 2 metres tall.





MUSIC - LET'S GET PERFORMING

We were delighted that Informal Concerts have continued this year, even through lockdown. We have been treated to in-house performances from pupils in Year 1 to Year 6 across a wide range of instruments. Pupils performed brilliantly to the live audience of school friends and for parents at home, and we were all so pleased to see live music being performed so wonderfully again!



NURSERY AND PRE-PREP SPORTS DAY

This year brought about a change to the usual Pre-Prep and Nursery Sports Day format. Rather than all events taking place on the same day, the events were spread across two days with each year group enjoying a stand-alone event. Parents were delighted to be able to join us and the children relished the opportunity to show off their skills and enjoy some light competition.

Nursery 1 made use of the astro turf and parents were able to join in the fun as children demonstrated their skills in six different activities including the egg & spoon, quoit balancing, football kicks, push bike races, beanbag throws and an obstacle course.

Nursery 2 experienced their event on the Reception track and worked in four teams to take on a number of different challenges. They completed an exciting obstacle course; travelling under, over and through obstacles, threw a beanbag as far as they could and raced along a 35 metre distance.

The Reception event followed and the children enjoyed an increased level of competition in their events with stickers awarded for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place runners for each race. The highlight of course was the team jelly relay at the end and a fantastic afternoon was had by all.

In the Year 1 & 2 Sports Events, the children had the opportunity to take part in field events, showing off their long jump and throwing skills. On the track they raced in their teams over 50 metres and 75 metres respectively before finishing off with the most popular event; the wacky water relay race. The end of the Year 1 event also saw a staff egg & spoon race in honour of Mrs Hopkins's final ever Sports Day at Chandlings.





PREP SPORTS DAY

Sometimes out of adversity and enforced change the results can be better than the original. Traditionally Prep Sports Day has literally been a whole day of Inter-House Athletics. This year the day was split in half with smaller year group bubbles of competitors and fewer spectators. For those watching Years 3 and 4 many had never been to the event before but those in Years 5 and 6 unanimously thought that the calmer, more intimate atmosphere made for an enjoyable day.

What didn't change was the ferocity of competition and the desire shown by every child to gain points for their house. The Year 6 competition was particularly impressive so it is impressive that Lara G-S. and Archie W. won the Ludorum trophies whilst the winning house was Richardson.



CRICKET

The Games department were delighted that the Summer term finally saw the return of competitive fixtures against opposition schools.

In Years 3 and 4, the boys and girls combined forces to make mixed gender teams for Cricket. They enjoyed practising their basic batting and fielding skills and using our fabulous nets to develop their technique. In matches they played in both mixed ability and streamed teams and recorded some impressive results against schools such as Ashfold and St Hugh's. All of the children greatly improved their basic bowling technique and thoroughly enjoyed experiencing match days once again.

The Year 5 and 6 girls picked up where they left off in the Autumn term and continued to impress with their Cricket knowledge. In lessons, they worked in the nets to develop the line and length of their bowls and in matches demonstrated excellent batting and team work skills to record often impressive run totals. Both the Year 5 and 6 teams were victorious in exciting matches against Cranford, Rupert House, Kitebrook and Ashfold and came close in matches against St Hughs. Whilst all matches were played in the pairs format with incrediballs, a group of budding cricketers did enjoy an introduction to hard ball cricket during Cricket Squad sessions on a Monday evening.



SENIOR CRICKET

Years 5 and 6 were combined to form the Senior U11 Colts Cricket team and fielded 4 teams against a variety of schools including Prep School Trust rivals Cothill and Kitebrook. The boys had played little cricket if any the previous year but showed tremendous progression by competing at both Incrediball Pairs Cricket and Hardball 20-20.

For parents this was their first opportunity to spectate and sample the splendour of Chandlings' cricket fields. Many viewed from the bank overlooking the car park pitches or brought chairs onto the main fields. Wherever their venue they can be proud of the boys' performances and the success they achieved.



SCHOOL COUNCIL

School should not only be somewhere a child attends, but also a place where they feel part of a community and have a voice in what goes on. The School Council at Chandlings offers democratically elected groups of students who represent their peers in making Chandlings the best it can possibly be. It aims to enable pupils to become partners in their own education and to make a positive contribution to the school and its environment.



WHY IS THE SCHOOL COUNCIL SO IMPORTANT?

"It is where people get to make decisions to make the school a better place."
Claire V-C

"It helps run the school and helps improve the school, not to mention it is where students can make suggestions." Margaret G

"It helps the school and improves the school and lets the children give their own opinions." Julia L

"The students can talk to the teachers about new suggestions." Felix G

"It makes sure everyone has a voice and is heard."
Helena F

WHY DO YOU LIKE BEING ON THE SCHOOL COUNCIL?

"I like being on the School Council because I enjoy discussing my views with other people." Noah A

"It is great fun to feel more involved in the improvements of Chandlings (not that it isn't already brilliant!)." Jaya H

"I like being on the School Council because I can listen to everyone and make a positive difference." Helena F

"I like being in the School Council because you get to know what's happening to the school in advance and you get to feedback to your class about what is happening which is very fun." Rafiq D

INTERVIEW WITH RICHARD HANCOCK

Each term the School Council organises an interview with a different member of staff. They decide upon the questions and then follow this up with an interview.



What was your dream job when you were a child?

I always wanted to be a lead singer of a rock band or a motor racing driver...neither came true!

Why did you want to be a teacher?

I didn't, to start with. I worked at a school during my gap year, and really enjoyed it. I loved the fact that you get to do many different things in one day. Also, when I saw the length of the holidays, I liked that!!!!

When did you start working at Chandlings?

I started in 2005, that is long before you were born!

Why did you choose to work at Chandlings and what was your first thought when you arrived?

I was living in France and Italy having some time off from teaching and when I came back to England I needed a job. I landed near Oxford and wrote about 40 letters to the schools in the area. Only two of them replied, Chandlings and Cothill. They invited me to come and meet them, which I did. Cothill couldn't hire me as that would have meant having to fire someone. The Head at Chandlings, Judy Forrest, wanted to offer me a job, however, she didn't have any at that point. 2 weeks later a new opportunity came up at Chandlings and she rang me to offer me the position which I happily accepted. I really appreciated the effort that the Headteacher made in getting back to me. I respected that. After seeing the school, I really liked it and decided I wanted to stay.

How many children have you taught at Chandlings?

I have seen the whole of many year groups while teaching Drama, Geography, and English. I worked out that I have taught roughly 50 children a year... that's about 800 children!!!

What is your favourite memory of teaching at Chandlings?

One really special memory is when we put on a play called A Midsummer Night's Dream by Shakespeare. The children performed it on an open-air stage at the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford Upon Avon, in 2016 to celebrate Shakespeare's 400th anniversary.

What is your favourite 'not word of the week'?

'Hopogopogoonie' Adjective, it means "to feel good about something in a slightly nutty way!"

What is your favourite pudding at Chandlings?

I have never even had a pudding at Chandlings!!!! (Can you believe that, readers?!). I don't really have much of a sweet tooth. So an apple... or maybe just once, jelly. I promise the children that I will have a pudding before I leave this year...maybe at the leavers' lunch!)

What is your favourite hobby?

Cycling or walking on World War 1 battlefields e.g The Somme, Ypres

What is your favourite sport?

Rugby when I was younger, I enjoyed both playing and watching it, but now I enjoy Golf, only playing though.

Why are you so interested in WW2?

Because of my grandfather - he fought in WW1 when he was 18, and later in WW2, when he protected the current Queen when she was young and had important jobs working for people like Winston Churchill.

What is your favourite time of the day?

6 o'clock am because it is the start of a new day and 6 o'clock pm because it is the end of the day and you can reflect on what you have done - it has hopefully been a good day.

Do you have any pets?

I have 2 cats- Portia and Shylock. They are named after two characters from Merchant of Venice. I might get a dog...

What do you want to be when you grow up?

I am still waiting for it to happen!!!! I saw a sign in a house one day saying "DON'T GROW UP, It's a trap". I really liked that!

CHARITY

In the Autumn term the whole school voted to choose Helen and Douglas House as our charity to support this year. PATCH have worked alongside the Charity Ambassadors to raise a wonderful amount of money, in spite of weeks of lockdown. Ice creams have been sold, Gifts for Grownups was a great success, and second hand uniform flew off the shelves - we are so grateful to Mrs Mullick and the PATCH members for all they have done! The Charity Ambassadors held their own incredibly successful event - Wildlife Friday was a non-uniform day with a difference - pupils could contribute ANY amount and come dressed with a wildlife theme! Chandlings raised £772.38 that day, and we all had lots of fun!

Thank you to our amazing Charity Ambassadors, Ellie T., Sophia S, Xanthe H, Harry C, Grace B, Mark B, Sofia B and Anur N. who have been an incredible, enthusiastic, creative, professional team.



PATCH - ICE CREAMS AND STAFF APPRECIATION DAY

We would like to say a huge thank you to PATCH and our community of parents for all they do at Chandlings Prep. The Staff Appreciation Day was amazing and made us all feel very special. Thank you also for organising the Ice-cream week - the children certainly enjoy it and it is a great fundraiser for our chosen charity.





Chandlings Prep School

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