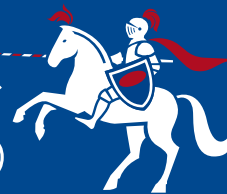


ISSUE 19
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KNIGHT'S TALES



WELCOME FROM THE HEAD

It can never be said that we take our foot off the pedal and glide quietly to the end of a term. This one has been particularly noteworthy with our Year 6 production followed by the Chandlings Prep Arts Festival culminating with Sports Week.

An additional excitement came with the announcement of a visit from the Independent Schools Inspectorate.

We have been waiting a number of years as the pandemic threw their schedule into disarray. The previous Educational Quality inspection was back in 2016. So it was that throughout the year, the anticipation of a phone call each Monday morning added a certain frisson to Senior Leadership Team meetings!

The call came just three weeks before the end of the year. The whole school community came together to give the inspection team an inspiring insight into what makes Chandlings Prep so special. We await their findings and the formal report but I can tell you that I am looking forward to sharing it with you next term.

We had a glorious afternoon on the last day of term for the Year 6 Prize Giving and Leavers' Lunch. We welcomed Mr Tom Beardmore-Gray, CEO of Prep Schools Trust to present the prizes. There was a super atmosphere and it was a fitting finale for the children, and their parents, to mark the end of their time at Chandlings Prep.

Christine Cook
Head



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 welcomed Tom Beardmore-Gray, CEO of Prep Schools Trust, to give out the cups and prizes to our winners. We bid farewell to our leavers and wish them every success in their new schools.

2023 CUP AWARDS	
McGrigor Cup for Creative Writing	Luisa K.
Chandlings Cup for Excellence in Mathematics	Hanbo L.
Chandlings Cup for Excellence in Science and Engineering	Nellie M.
Good Musicianship Cup	Alfie P.
The McGill Cup for Art	Talia A.
Cadbury Enterprise Cup	Margaret G.



KING'S CORONATION

The celebrations began with the whole school in the Year 2 Courtyard listening to the traditional sound of the bagpipes being played by Mr Chang-Ho Yoon this was followed by our very own town crier aka Mr Brodley who announced the Coronation activities for the afternoon.

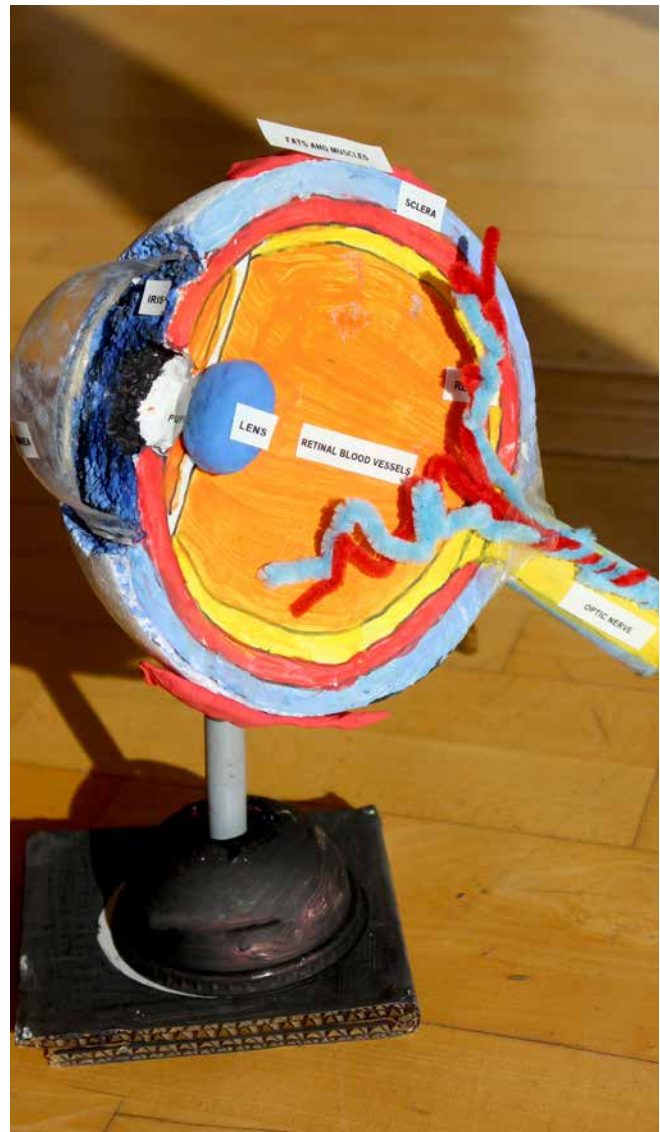
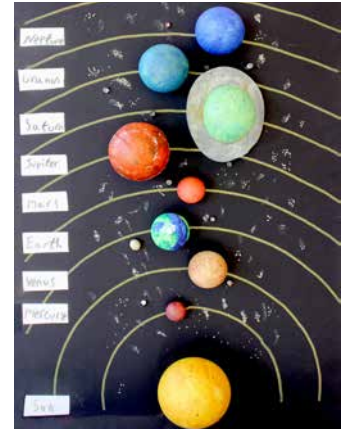
After the proclamation all the children set off around the school grounds on a Coronation Trail where they had to find 12 stations with information and activities to do based on the coronation. This was followed by a delicious Coronation tea with the parents and a wonderful rendition of a special Coronation song sung by all the children from Year 1 to Year 6 and the day finished with the National Anthem. Nursery had lots of fun too, dressing up as Beefeaters during the week and having fun with their own royal cardboard cutouts.





SCIENCE CELL COMPETITION

The children in Year 5 were tasked with making a model of an eye or a solar system for a house competition, in order to support and cement their understanding of their Science and Engineering topic, Light. They had to choose their materials, label the parts of their model, and include a description for each part. There was a huge variety of fantastic models made out of a wide range of materials. The judging proved tricky due to the extremely high standard but we managed, after much deliberation, to decide upon the winners.



DRUMMING DAY AT THE ORATORY

The Year 5 and 6 drum students had a groovy and energy-filled day at the Oratory this term. Together with 25 other students, they played an array of unconventional instruments like buckets, chairs, broomsticks, and rubbish can lids, as well as some large bass drums, and of course a drum kit. Mr. John Donnelly from the Oratory ran the session and created his own hip-hop/techno backing track for the day. The students learned different grooves to play in each section and when to start and stop. It was a great experience playing with so many other drummers, and having to listen and watch to know what to play.



SUCCESS FOR CHANDLINGS AT YOUNG ART OXFORD

Chandlings Prep continues to excel at Young Art Oxford and this year had 28 artworks displayed which were chosen from over 3000 entries.

Young Art Oxford is an annual art exhibition open to all Oxfordshire schools from any year between Reception to Year 9. It is a wonderful opportunity for young aspiring artists to have their work judged by well known professionals and artists and for them to be exhibited. Each year the children have a different theme on which to base their art with this year's theme being 'Power'.

This year all the children from Year 1 to Year 6 painted artworks from which 28 were chosen to be displayed at the Ashmolean. Amongst these Chandlings also had one Highly Commended and five Commended.



Year 6



Year 3



Year 5



Year 6



Year 5 Commended



Year 1 Highly Commended



Year 4 Commended



Year 1 Commended



Year 1 Commended



Year 4 Winner of public vote



Year 1 Commended



Year 6



Year 6



Year 6



Year 4



Year 5



Year 4

NURSERY ENJOY A TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC

Our nursery children had a very exciting end to the Summer term with their Teddy Bear's Picnic. They hunted around the grounds for teddy bear clues and then enjoyed a fun picnic in their classroom as sadly it began to rain!



RECEPTION ENJOYED SAILING THE OCEANS AS PIRATES

There was much excitement when our Reception children came into school dressed as pirates. 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 and pirate flags that the children had made the day before.



YEAR 1 ENJOYED A WONDERFUL WORLD OF CHOCOLATE

This term the topic for Year 1 was 'The Wonderful World of Chocolate.' The launch began when the children received their very own golden ticket inviting them to a chocolate wonderland.

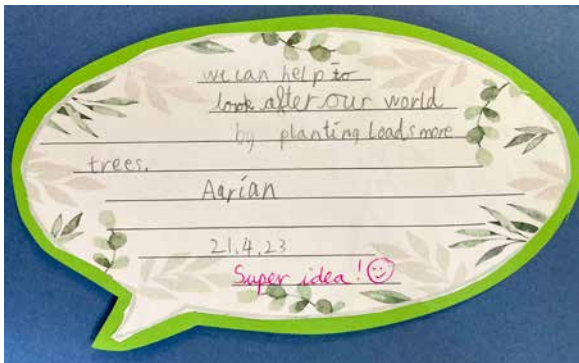
Excited children arrived the next day dressed as characters from Charlie and the Chocolate factory. The day began with the children listening to the beginning of Charlie and the Chocolate factory (their text for the half-term) to give them insight into the story. They were then whisked off in a 'chocolate train' to the inventing room where the children experimented with flavourings and toppings to invent their very own chocolate bar. While their chocolate bars were setting, they returned to the classroom to create and design their packaging. They had to think about the chocolate bar name, how much it would cost, how much it would weigh and include the ingredients. The children talked about what they already knew about chocolate and what they wanted to find out.

They finished with a very special Willy Wonka inspired lunch - which you will be pleased to know was not totally chocolate!



YEAR 2 OUR WONDERFUL WORLD

Year 2 had a very exciting launch to their topic Our Wonderful World. Inspired by their text 'Alice in Wonderland,' they began in the Food Tech room making jam tarts ready for a Mad Hatter's tea party! The 'Alice' theme continued in DT and Art where they have created laser cut mushrooms and 3D artwork as well as studying the text in English lessons. They have been discovering life in Bangladesh as part of our Wonderful World and learning about the significant contribution women have made in our world with a focus on Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole.



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 the Cubs, Rocks and Gems, Camping, Harry Potter, Medicinal Plants and Horse Riding. The children stood up and presented their museum giving us many facts and interesting things to think about. 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.



YEAR 4 VISIT WARWICK CASTLE

Year 4 had a really exciting and informative trip to Warwick Castle which tied in with their History topic this term of Medieval England and its castles. They watched an amazing bowman demonstrating with a longbow. He managed to hit his target with amazing accuracy across the castle moat! While walking around the castle entrance the children spotted the portcullis and murder holes. They followed this with a visit to the Time Tower where they learnt about the history of the castle. There was a steep climb up the motte to the keep which offered spectacular views and earned them a well deserved lunch. The afternoon was packed with a falconry display, a climb to the castle ramparts and finally a trebuchet reenactment. There is nothing like bringing history to life and this trip certainly did that.



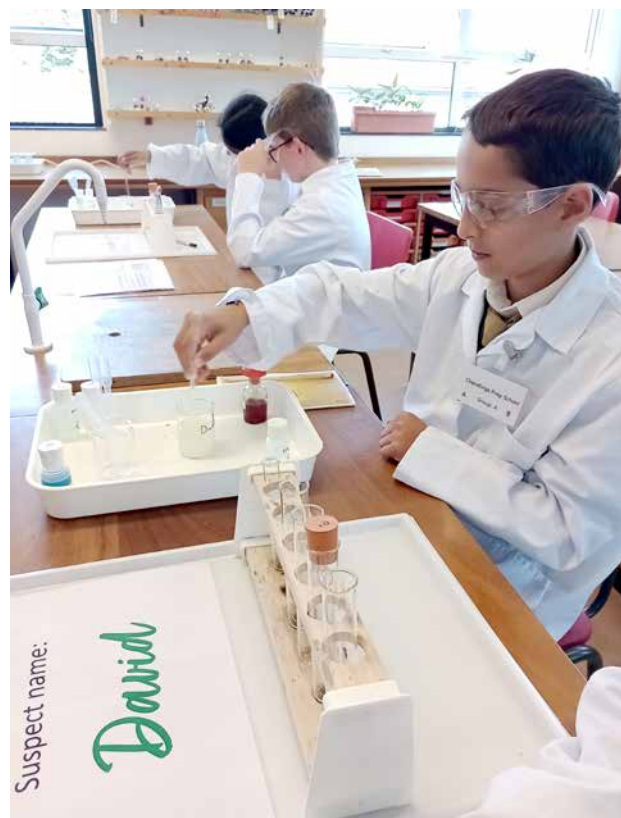
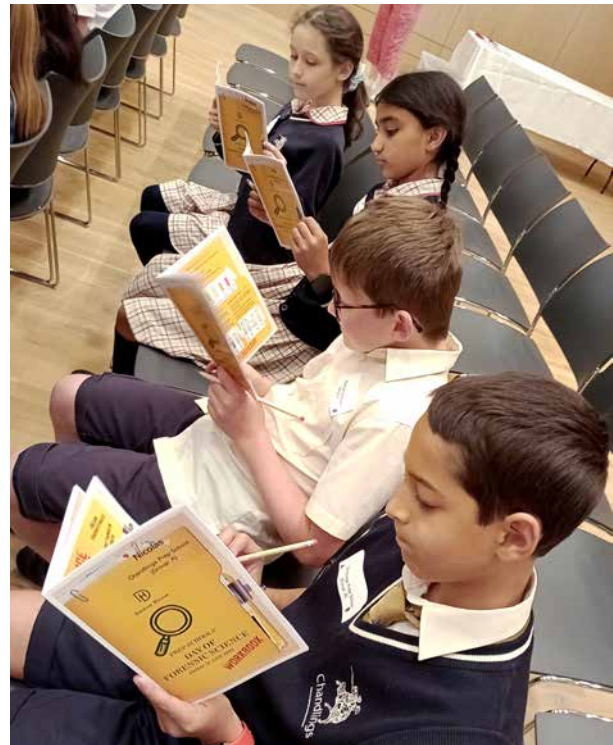
CREATIVE CASTLE MODELS

Over the holidays, the Year 4 pupils were asked to create a model of a castle to link to their History topic. The mezzanine by the fireplace was filled with an amazing display of concentric and motte and bailey castles. A huge amount of effort had gone into creating these fantastic models.



YEAR 5 BECOME DETECTIVES FOR THE DAY

A team of super sleuths, from Year 5, tackled a crime scene at Downe House School. Throughout the day they carried out forensics to determine which suspect was the perpetrator. After analysing fingerprints, footprints, fibres, an unknown powder and stomach contents, the detectives correctly deduced the offender.



YEAR 6 CAMP

Day 1

After arrival the children headed up to camp carrying their bags, some of them had 3 plus an inflatable mattress! They set up their tents in the Chandlings' camp site and prepared firewood and organised our supplies. Mr Foster and Mr Marchant took the pupils for a short walk, circa 4 miles around Bagley Wood orienteering and making observations along the way. Once camp had been fully set some sports like skittles, football, cricket and boules were a great way to unwind, reflect on times past and enjoy fun with friends. The camp fire was lit at about 6pm and the BBQ was rustled up by team Foster and a group of Chandlings staff. Steak and sausages and dietary alternatives followed by a chocolate muffin did not help an early night however the children headed off to bed happy at around 9.30pm to be ready for our full activity day.

Day 2

The children set off to Barfield Prep (one of our sister schools) for the day taking part in a variety of outdoor challenges including low and high ropes, archery and aeroball. Encouragement, teamwork and communication were the order of the day. We had a downpour in the middle of the day but we were undercover for our packed lunch and then the sun came out for afternoon activities. The totem pole challenge and a free fall were taken in the pupils' stride and they were very much given a challenge by choice. After an amazing day we headed back in torrential rain and on the bus, the staff team were hard at work thinking about a wet weather plan for overnight! The decision was made to decamp to school, as during our inspection of some of the tents, there were literally pools of water running through them! Mr and Mrs Redman cooked delicious pizza, in the brand new pizza oven given by the Year 6 parents, for us under the archway in the rain, and Mr Foster smashed out another incredible BBQ. The Disco was great fun and we then dispersed back to the dorms/ drama rooms and had an amazing night's sleep. This is the first time in 10 years we have had to abandon camp!

Day 3

This was the day of the swim gala which involved lots of cheering as well as splashing! Lunch was followed by an ice cream from the Mr Whippy Van prior to the clearing of camp. Thankfully the weather improved quickly and the sun dried the tents allowing us to take them down almost entirely dry! The day finished with the very popular taskmaster with the amazing Mr Clarke and Year 6 finally went home full of fantastic memories of their final days at Chandlings.



YEAR 6 FRENCH TRIP TO BERCK-SUR-MER

There was a buzz of excitement on the coach as Year 6 departed on their five day trip to the Picardy region in France. Ben, their fantastic driver, squeezed onto the Euro Shuttle and navigated the way to the Château du Broutel which was to be their home for the next week. After a fun game of Château Olympics they all settled down in their dorms for the night.

Day one began at the market in Étaples where they bought an array of items but also had to conduct a few interviews to find out various bits of information. After this they headed to Jean Moulin school to meet their penpals and enjoy a picnic lunch together. Friendships were made and saying goodbye was emotional. The evening was spent bowling in Berck-Sur-Mer and was very competitive and a lot of fun.



Wednesday was filled with a visit to the Musée de Berck followed by a visit to the goat farm to meet Frank and Fred's relatives. The children all sampled some of the cheese before heading off to Les Grottes de Naours where they learnt about smugglers and how they offered protection during various wars.

The final day began at Monsieur and Madame Matifas' sweet shop. The children learnt the history of sweet making and of course sampled a few sweets too! This was followed by lunch on the beach and then a visit to the snail farm. This was a lesson in science as well as a culinary experience.

The trip finished back at the Château with a variety of team building games and the Château Quiz!

It was wonderful to be back in France after having been unable to go for the last few years. The children were immersed in French culture and have made memories to last beyond Chandlings Prep. Thank you to all the staff and in particular to Mlle Pasquini for organising such a fantastic trip.



YEAR 6 PLAY - ALL THE WORLDS A STAGE

Congratulations to all the Year 6 children, Mrs Belcher and Miss Sharp on a fantastic performance of All the World's a Stage. We were all thoroughly entertained with this brilliantly hilarious Shakespearean musical written by our very own Mrs Belcher. We watched as William Shakespeare made his way to London in an attempt to make his fame and fortune as a playwright. We were then witness to three (short) versions of Romeo and Juliet, A Midsummer Night's Dream and Macbeth. Queen Elizabeth I even made an appearance! The children were full of energy and enthusiasm, even in the scorching June heat, and gave four thoroughly professional performances to the school and their families. What an array of talent!





CHANDLINGS PREP ARTS FESTIVAL

Who needs Glastonbury when you've got the Chandlings Prep Arts Festival! Hundreds of Chandlings Prep families were treated to a showcase of work from the Arts. The festival began with a rousing rendition of 'Revolting Children' on the lawn and then the crowd dispersed around the grounds to enjoy the other performances and displays.



There were exhibitions of beautiful DT and art work displayed amongst the trees, stunning ballet and dance performances on the lawn, exciting drama and choral speaking recitals in the amphitheatre, plus five different choir performances and eleven ensembles all located around the school grounds. It was a joyous occasion and a day to remember.



NURSERY & RECEPTION SPORTS DAY

The penultimate week of term saw a total of six Sports Day events take place. For our youngest Nursery children, parents were invited to join them as they demonstrated their skills in different activities including the egg & spoon, quoit balancing, football kicks, push bike races, beanbag throws and an obstacle course before taking part in a grand relay to finish.

Nursery 2 experienced a more structured event on the Reception track in which they tried their best at a range of individual and team races. 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 introduced the children to an increased level of competition in their races with stickers awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place runners for each race. Primed and ready to go the children tried their best at all of the races and giggled with joy as they took part in the jelly and water relays to close out the morning.



PRE-PREP AND YEAR 3

SPORTS DAY

Year 1 enjoyed a taste of the long jump and bean bag throw before racing on the track over a 50m distance and taking on the obstacle race. The Year 2's meanwhile took part in their chosen field event and then all enjoyed the chance to race over 200m and 75m.



PREP SPORTS DAY

Prep-Sports Day was like yesteryear when the whole of Prep competed at the same time with a family picnic lunch separating the morning and afternoon sessions. As is usual with all House events the inter-house rivalries were evident on the track and in the field. The whole event was won by team Poltimore.



There were many individual winners of all the events but two in particular are recognised by the school. The best athletes on the day in Year 6 this year were Margaret G and Alexander A who received the Victrix Ludorum and the Victor Ludorum cups to keep for the year.



GIRLS' CRICKET

The Year 5 & 6 girls enjoyed a fantastic term of Cricket in which the U11/10 A team ended the term with a 100% record and the opportunity to play a competitive hard ball match was taken for the first time. All girls showed tremendous improvement in their technical knowledge and game awareness, and opposition schools were impressed with the quality of our bowling across the board. A testament to the value of equal access to the cricket nets during lessons and lunchtimes.

In Years 3 & 4 the focus was on the development of basic bowling and batting skills. All children took part in competitive matches which were a combination of mixed ability and streamed, mixed gender and single sex matches. Every child had the opportunity to play in the cricket nets and their individual skills were greatly improved.

House matches for the girls were highly contested events. With one team per house in the Year 3 & 4 combined and Year 5 & 6 combined competition, all children contributed fully for their house and an impressive level of skill and competitiveness was displayed in each event.



YEARS 3-6 BOYS' CRICKET

Cricket, as a major game at Chandlings continues to catch the imagination of the boys and girls. It was very gratifying to see so many taking the opportunity to use the nets at lunch. Special mention should go to the Year 4 boys who set up and managed their own breaktime matches.

Playing against local Prep schools all the teams recorded many more wins than losses. For the most part, early in the term Year 3 played mixed ability and mixed gender matches but on the occasions when they played as boys only, they scored good wins against St Hugh's and Ashfold.

From Year 4 onwards the game becomes much more competitive, although it is still pairs cricket until they reach Year 6. The Colts A team had a great season playing 20/20 cricket. Captained by Toby M they scored notable victories against Cothill and Magdalen XI. In that final game against Magdalen, fast bowler Thomas K showed why he represents Oxfordshire by taking a hattrick of wickets and in the same game Marchant led from the front with the bat scoring a total of 48 not out.



GOLF AT CHANDLINGS

Chandlings Prep Junior & Senior Golf Championships

On Wednesday 26 April and Thursday 27 April, 14 children from across Years 3 to 6 went to Frilford Heath Golf Club to participate in the Chandlings Junior and Senior Prep Golf Championships. Year 3 and 4 pupils played the first nine holes on the blue course and learned a great deal about club selection and course management whilst they played and it was clear to see that everyone was having fun and would take something positive away from the afternoon. The 'Closest to the pin' competition was won by Rory H and after nine holes, Tom L and Freddie M were declared joint winners having scored 25 points each.



The next day saw the Year 5 and 6 pupils take on the Red course. As soon as the children started to practise on the putting green the weather started to change for the worse and after three rather wet holes play was suspended. The remaining six holes were then played on the Chandlings golf course and the eventual winner was Emile.

Prep Schools Trust Golf Competition

On Thursday 25 May 2023 the annual Prep Schools Trust Golf Competition was held at two of the member schools; Chandlings Prep and Cothill.

Chandlings entered a team of 6 boys, these were Emile, Josh C, Ellis, James, Tom and Toby.

Some fantastic golf was played around both Chandlings and Cothill. The courses were in beautiful condition and a huge thanks must go to our Groundsman Rob Maskrey and his team as well as Mr Clarke for organising the event.

The competition was split into three prize categories; Junior individual, Senior individual and Whole Team Score. Emile won the Junior and Chandlings won the Team event by 4 points.

House Golf was also played this term with Astley being the worthy winners.

Congratulations to all our golfers and we look forward to more events to come.



SKI TRIP TO AUSTRIA

During the Easter holidays 37 children and 6 staff set off to the beautiful ski resort of Salzburger Sportwelt in Austria for a week of skiing. The trip began with a rather long coach journey but Mr Brooks and Mr Umhoefer entertained them with lots of games before they arrived in Kuchl.

Every day was filled with excitement but particularly the first, when all the children were skiing for the first time. They began on the nursery slopes and then after lunch were split into groups according to their ability. The week had a variety of weather from blue skies to constant snow falling but the children went from strength to strength. The pizza snow ploughs were improving and by Wednesday some of the beginners headed up on the chair lifts onto the 'big' mountain.



The more advanced were having a great time enjoying the 'Fun Slope' where pupils ducked through hoops, skied over large bumps and gave high fives to robots with padded hands!

Lunches were enjoyed in a variety of restaurants and in the evening they ate like Kings and Queens back at the hotel with Wiener Schnitzel being a particular favourite!

By the final day Blue, Red and Black runs were all being conquered and the children had all improved dramatically. It was a fantastic week and the Chandlings Prep children did themselves and the school proud.

A huge thank you to all the staff who went on the trip and in particular to Mr Umhoefer for organising. Wonderful memories were made along with some much improved skiers!



INTERVIEW WITH MRS MCALOON HEAD OF PRE-PREP

Where in Ireland do you come from?

Dublin, the historical part.

Can you speak Irish if you do what is your favourite word?

'Cara' - means friend, it comes from the Latin word, carus, which means loved one. Yes I can speak Irish, We had to speak it at school. I have two favourite phrases, 'Níl aon tinteán mar do thinteán féin' - means There's no place like home. You may prefer 'Aithníonn ciarog ciarog eile!', this means one rascal attracts another!

How long have you been teaching at Chandlings?

23 years!

What is the best thing about Chandlings to you?

Children! When the children arrive at the start of term- that is when I realise why I am really here, Inset Days are very different when there are no children in school.

What do you do when you're not in school?

Sleeping! (just joking) I like gardening, reading and I would like to try golf and fly fishing. My husband does it and I would like to go with him.

What is your favourite vegetable you grow in your garden?

Home grown peas- eaten straight from the pod- they are lovely and sweet.

If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life, what would it be?

It would have to be something really versatile so it would have to be Potatoes or Pasta. So I can eat chips, boiled potatoes.

Does pineapple belong on pizza?

NO- Pineapple does not belong on pizza. Anchovies do- but pineapple doesn't (my husband has just bought an ooni oven and he would agree)

If you could only eat one ice cream flavour for the rest of your life what would it be?

Mint chocolate chip - easy question

If you had any superpower what would it be and why?

There is a saying 'Youth is wasted on Young' - I would invent the power of making everyone appreciate their youth.



If you could be any superhero what would it be and why?

I'd be called Supervalue (not like the shop Super Value in Ireland!) so I could make everyone follow our Chandlings values.

Do you have any pets? If not, what would your dream pet be?

Yes I have a dog golden retriever called Bailey. 2 chickens called Sue and Duck.

If you had an elephant what would you name it?

Nellie so everybody would sing along when she walks by.

When you were little, which toy did you enjoy playing with the most?

A typewriter.

What was your favourite sport when you were younger?

Running, I wasn't very good at it but I enjoyed it.

Who is your favourite literary character?

George - a character from the Famous Five. Mrs Bennet from Pride and Prejudice- she's funny without trying to be!

If you could be the star in any movie what would it be and why?

Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz so she could say my favourite phrase in Irish, there is no place like home!

If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be?

A remote part of Ireland by the beach.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

We were thrilled to welcome so many families to the Family Fun Night. Picnic blankets were laid out and the children (and parents!) had a vast array of different activities to enjoy. They threw themselves over the inflatable assault course and hurtled around the Chandlingsapoli 500 Trike Races. The children loved getting their faces painted and the parents loved trying to take the paint off later that evening!



A huge thank you must go to PATCH and Mr Brodley and the sports department for pulling it all together and of course all the parents and staff for providing the different stalls and activities. All proceeds from the evening go towards our Charity for this Year The Oxford Hospitals Charity.



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