

2020

Crescent
School

2019-20
Making the
most of the
challenges ...



Circular



Welcome...

to this year's edition of the Crescent Circular.

The school year of 2019-2020 will be remembered for a long time.

The unique circumstances of dealing with a global pandemic and the subsequent closure of the school and learning from home, is something we have quite simply never faced before. For that reason, perhaps, this year's *Circular* seems like a more important document than ever, as it gives us a chance to celebrate all of those good things that we have enjoyed together as a school in the face of all these challenges.

These pages are brimming over with stories of endeavour, achievement and success, both inside the classroom and out.

Frustratingly, we were in the midst of possibly the most successful year of sport in the school's history. Our hockey team had qualified for the finals of the IAPS national tournament for the fourth year in a row and we felt they had the best chance of all of the teams who have got to this stage of going on and winning the overall title. We will never know what they might have done but we are proud of their achievements nevertheless, as we are of all of the sports boys and girls who have represented the school with such enthusiasm in the year gone by. It was also a great year for Music and Drama with unprecedented success in ABRSM and LAMDA exams a good representation of the enormously high standards that have been set.

This year we have said goodbye to two members of staff with a long association with the school who have both made enormous contributions in their different ways. Alice Wren, the daughter of the former headmaster, Mr Ian Wren, relocated to Cardiff with our very best wishes after many years of service as a much-loved teaching assistant. I have already mentioned the success of our sports teams and much of the credit for this must go to our Games master Matt Phillips, who also left the school after 12 years of service. We also said goodbye to longstanding trustee and volunteer Pat Lines.

We welcome to the school this year Mark Adkins as our new Head of Digital Learning and Helen Plenderleith who will teach Art in the upper school. We hope that both of these new teachers take the school to their hearts, in the way that their predecessors most certainly did.

In the classroom this year, we focused on the impact that targeted feedback can make on children's learning. The right input at the right time can spur a child on to achieve their next steps and move forward with their learning. Much progress was made in this area and we continue to focus on this again for 2020-21, as well as asking the children to self-regulate their work and make sure that they are putting the teachers' feedback into practice on a daily basis.

At the top end of the school we had an exceptional year of success with entrance exams, where more than 70% of our children achieved the pass mark for the 11+ and we more than doubled our number of scholarship offers at Princethorpe College. Despite the lockdown, we all enjoyed the opportunity to say a fond farewell to our Year 6 pupils at their end of year service on the field. I should also thank the contribution that the Friends of Crescent made to this event, as well as so many others that they have generously supported, with the help of our wonderful parents, throughout the year that has gone by.

The Circular is always a source of great pride for the teachers and staff here. I do hope you all enjoy reading it.

Happy reading!

Joe Thackway



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Good Friends

We are kind to each other
We forgive each other and work things out together
We are gentle and caring
We use our manners all the time

Good Learners



We work hard and try our best
We never give up and always try again
We are calm and sensible
We listen and don't interrupt



Good Citizens

We try to keep safe and be responsible
We respect everyone and we are tolerant
We are honest and tell the truth
We keep our school tidy and take pride in our clothes and our uniform

Attainment Report Pre-Prep 2019-20

This year has proved to be another very happy and successful year for the children in Pre-Prep.

We continue, each day, to welcome happy children who love school and who strive to be good friends, good learners and good citizens. This year above all others they have demonstrated a resilience and application we are so proud of. We believe that these starting points enable children to be the best they can be across and beyond the curriculum.

- In Reception 94% of Crescent children attained a 'good level of development'. The national average is 72%. This data is based upon the children achieving the expected level of development across 12 key Early Learning Goals (they include Communication and Language; Physical Development; Personal Social Emotional; Literacy; Mathematics and Expressive Art and Design). The average national point score is 34.6, at Crescent it is 40.5.
- In Year 1 85% of children met or exceeded expectations in Reading, 80% in Writing, 90% in Maths and 85% Science.
- Our Year 2 children have also continued to thrive. In Reading 90%, Writing 90%, Maths 90% and Science 95% of children met or exceeded national expectations.

We are very proud of the huge amount of work that children, parents and staff put into this.

In terms of exceeding age expectations:

- 39% of Reception children exceeded expectations in Reading, 33% in Writing and 33% in Maths.
- In Year 1 in Reading 40% of children exceeded national expectations, 25% in Writing, in Maths 30% and Science 40% .
- In Year 2 50% of children exceeded age expectations in Reading and Maths. 35% in Writing and 25% in Science.

IN RECEPTION

94%
of children
attained a
"good level of
development"

Upper School Academic Achievement

We say goodbye this year to another wonderful Year 6. They have been a joy to work with as they have made their way through the school.

We pride ourselves at the Crescent on putting the child first when it comes to secondary school placements. We had another very successful year, preparing and helping children to get to their senior school of choice. The work starts very much as soon as the children start school but becomes increasingly focused from Year 4 with 'Thinking Skills' lessons and exam preparation in Maths and English; but alongside this the wellbeing of the children remains at the front of our minds as we work closely with their families to identify the school where they will flourish.

Over 70% of the children who took the 11+ were offered a place for a grammar school.

97% of the children who sat entrance exams for independent schools were offered a place. 18 children are going to Princethorpe College

The following scholarships were awarded across the year group:

- ★ 3 Music scholarships
- ★ Art scholarships
- ★ Sports scholarship
- ★ All-rounders scholarships
- ★ Academic scholarship

This has been an outstanding year. The contributory factors are smaller classes and Teaching Assistants working with the classes. 'Thinking Skills' lessons in preparation and teachers teaching the class for Year 5 and 6 in preparation for exams, through Brain Training at the start of the year, mock exams, holiday work sent home at key times and PSHE time to offer support.

We have been delighted with how this year's class has performed and we wish them all the best of luck in their senior schools and future endeavours.



Prizes for 2019-2020

Academic

Barrett English Prizes	Izzy Slaytor
Year 6	Alyssa Barnett
Year 5	Stephanie Bolton
Year 4	Zahra Nadeem
Year 3	Sam Sheffield
Ovens Cup for Maths	Freya Somerset
Taylor Trophy for Science	Maryn Yates
Abu El Gasim prize for Languages	Chloe Wensley - RE (overall winner)
Forth Prize for Humanities	Harry Barnwell - History
	Sienna Moran - Geography

Ovens/Davis Trophy for Computing	Daniel Ovens Gibbs
Page Music Prize	Henry Corbin
Henderson Eckersley Cup for Drama	Joshua Gorbuff
Heyes Art Prize	Rania Akbik
The Mortimer Prize	Thomas Ferguson

Behaviour

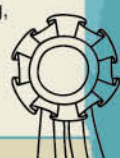
Morley-Boys Pre-Prep Cup for Resilience	Shiv Patel
Clayton Star for Outstanding Behaviour in Reception	Aria Khunti

Sport

The Barnes Cup for outstanding Sports Girl	Harriett Gray
The Hunt Trophy for outstanding Sports Boy	George Bell
Noyce Trophy for most promising girl sports player (Year 5)	Amy Robinson
Phillips Trophy for most promising boy sports player (Year 5)	Isaac Nelson

Other

Junior Da Vinci Shield for Boys	James Wright
Junior Da Vinci Shield for Girls	Freya Somerset
Head Boy	Joseph Yates
Head Girl	Chloe Wensley
The School Promise Cup	Jessica Sarkies
House Point Trophy	St George



Reception



Reception Teacher: Mrs Pullen

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Noyce

Thomas Birkinshaw
Esme Farr
Kian Gill
Evelyn Hosegood
Isabella Jackson
Everly Kemp
Aria Khunti
Tomisin Ladele
Nimeeta Matharu

Theo McBean
Alfie Millward
Amber Morley
Seren Rougeolle
Harry Rule
Taran Shah
Albert Toller
Lilah Wigley
Charlotte Wood



RECEPTION NAMES WITH NATURE

The children had a lot of fun with outdoor learning. The class were set a task of forming their name using natural pieces they found outside. All sorts of lovely things were used with lots of creativity. Different textures and colours were explored and arranged to form some beautiful natural 'writing.'



Paired Reading

We buddied up with a friend and shared our books in 'paired reading.' We enjoyed reading to each other and talking about our stories. We helped each other with some tricky words and talked about the characters.



FUNNYBONES

Our work in literacy in November was based around *Funnybones*. We had fun exploring how speech marks are used and we sequenced the main events in the story. We also had a visit from 'Disco Dave' our model skeleton who inspired us to create our own skeleton pictures that we put on display in our classroom.



Measuring Reception

In Maths the children learned about simple capacity. We talked about terms like 'full' 'half full' and 'empty'. We enjoyed playing in the water and exploring which containers hold the most liquid. We also used non-standard units of measurement to investigate 'Who is the tallest in the class?'



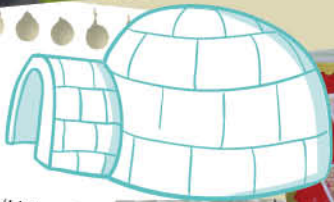


The Hungry Caterpillar

The children study French in Reception and enjoy learning new words. Over a number of weeks, Reception children studied the Very Hungry Caterpillar. They had great fun making jigsaw puzzles and naming some of the food the hungry caterpillar eats in French.

They learned to name the main elements of the story, from the caterpillar to the butterfly via the cocoon, and the food it eats, all in French. The children then made their own miniature version of the book, drawing the pictures and sequencing the pages.

Hot and Cold



In the Lent term the children explored the topic 'Hot and Cold.' To start they went outside for a winter walk. With clipboards in hand and checklists, they saw lots of signs of winter and followed their walk up with some lovely writing. They then investigated hibernation and had fun exploring and describing ice. They compared hot and cold places and the role play area took on the shape of an igloo as the children become Arctic explorers!



Once Upon a Time

In the Trinity term we started a new topic – 'Once Upon a Time' - and our first focus story was 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. In our home learning we had fun with an online version of the tale and wrote personal responses to the story. We also wrote apology letters to the bears!

Then we moved on to the 'Three Little Pigs' and the children were asked to create a painting, picture or collage of the pigs' houses for their work in Expressive Art and Design. We were delighted with the effort that the class went to – there were some superb pictures.

And no one in Reception was afraid of the Big Bad Wolf - although we did discover that he really isn't a very nice character. So the children thought of adjectives to describe the wolf and recognised that he doesn't show any of the qualities of a good citizen unlike the children of Crescent School. The children then made pictures, masks or puppets of the wolf. All sorts of wonderful wolf creations were produced and lots of fine motor skills practised.

Take a look at our not so scary Big Bad Wolves.



RECEPTION RASCALS AHOY!



We set sail on a learning adventure and explored the topic of 'Pirates'. In our first focus text we discovered that pirates love golden underpants! We enjoyed exploring rhyme in the story and suggested alternative phrase endings. Our role play area took the shape of a pirate ship – 'Reception Rascal' and we all thought about what pirate name we would choose. There were plenty of daily treasure challenges rewarded with golden treasure. At home we continued our topic by producing pirate masks.





Year 1 Teacher: Mrs Emery

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Olnor,

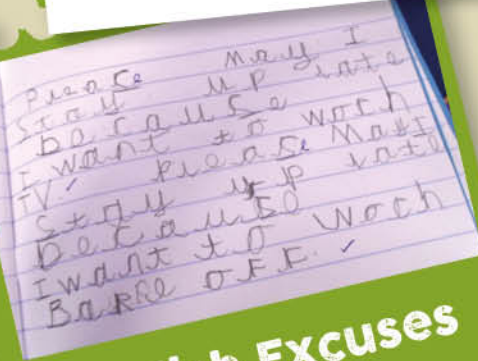
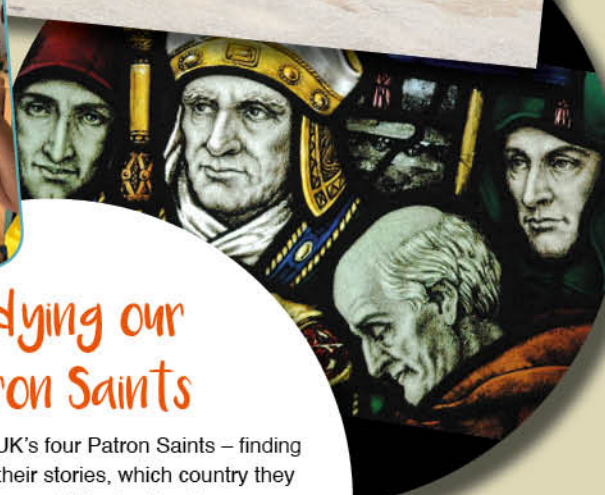
Alex Barnett
Patrick Beecham
Roisin Capper
Maximillion Edge
Sophie Gower
Lewis Husbands
Zac Jardine
Sophia Khan
Fred Le Poidevin
Matthew Lee

Aryaan Morjaria
Shaylan Patel
Akaal Rai
Maya Tarnauceanu
Herbie Thomas
Max Thomas
Nora Virdee
Barnaby Williams
Edward Woolley
Samuel Yates



Studying our Patron Saints

Year 1 explored the UK's four Patron Saints – finding out who they were, their stories, which country they represent and their representation in churches today. The children looked in detail at the Patron Saint that represents their own school house. They then produced a fabulous display representing all the learning that had taken place.



English Excuses

In January Year 1 enjoyed writing excuses in English explaining to their parents why they should be allowed to stay up late. They used the word 'because' to explain their ideas and extend their sentences. There were plenty of fantastic excuses from the children.



Respecting and understanding different beliefs

Year 1 learned about Islam. They followed the custom of washing their hands before touching the Qur'an then looked inside to see Arabic and English writing. In groups they reflected on the Qur'an and created their own set of rules to make the world a better place. It was a great exercise in understanding and respecting different cultures.



Electric Science

Year 1 children faced the challenge of using their understanding of electricity to create working circuits from scratch. As bulbs lit up all around the room, they were very proud of their application and investigative skills.

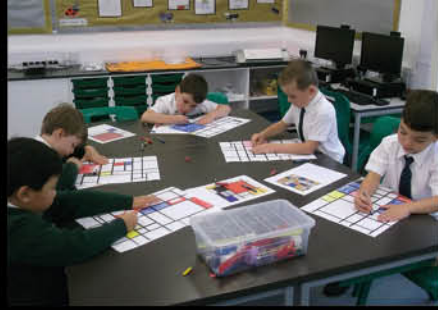


Science sense of smell



Year 1 scientists explored their sense of smell: recognising and rating a whole range of smells

(some of which they liked, some they really didn't!). We gathered our thoughts and recorded our results as a simple pictogram.



MONDRIAN MASTERPIECE

Year 1 created a large scale piece of art in the style of Artist Piet Mondrian - big, bright and bold. His work is famous for its vertical and horizontal, black lines filled with bright, primary colours – red, blue and yellow. The children learned how to use colour, shape and space to create a unique group piece of art. They were all very pleased with the result.



Measurement in Maths

Year 1 discovered the size of some of the largest and smallest animals in the world as part of an introduction to measuring using centimetres and metres.



Great investigation skills, comparative discussion and understanding of the importance of accuracy when measuring a squid eye, a dwarf goby and even an anteater's tongue.



Geography Field Trip

Year 1 enjoyed a mini field trip around school identifying different styles of houses. The children found detached, semi-detached, terraced houses and bungalows in the local area and really enjoyed drawing them and noting down the differences and similarities.



Waterproof for Winnie

In Science during the Michaelmas Term, Year 1 children were worried that Winnie the Pooh's umbrella had ripped in a storm! They quickly became engaged, as practical scientists testing different materials for a speedy repair job. Their criteria was simple - it just had to be waterproof!



SEASIDE SCENE SETTER

Year 1 studied seaside holidays to develop their knowledge of the past and to appreciate the differences from the present. Freshwater Theatre returned to the school to help bring their seaside studies to life. They ran a drama workshop giving the children a memorable and engaging trip through seaside holidays from 1910 through to the modern day.



Year 2



Amazing Amazon

Year 2 started their exploration of the amazing Amazon by studying the rainforest in their Geography lessons. They went on to design and make different Rainforest animals in their Art class – including these fantastic piranhas from the Amazon river. When learning moved online, they completed the topic at home making 3D models, information booklets and drawing lots of lovely pictures.



DT DREAM CATCHERS

Year 2 made dream catchers using card circles and squares and lots of bright wool. They began by learning the basics and making a simple circular design before working independently on their own creation. Their work was very creative.

MASTERING MINI BRASS

In Year 2 the children all take part in Mini-Brass. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn how to play an instrument. This was their very first lesson. They were all very excited to be learning an instrument and could not wait to take them home to show their parents what they had accomplished.



Stunning Silhouettes

Year 2 enjoyed creating silhouette paintings. They started with a colour wash and then added black silhouettes of trees, fences and birds, the final result was a selection of stunning pictures.



story club

Pre-Prep story club on Tuesday lunchtime enables children from Reception to Year 2 to simply enjoy books in a relaxed and informal way. Sometimes we listen to or watch stories, sometimes we read alone, sometimes we share with a friend. What we do hope is that all children are developing a lifelong passion for reading.



Year 2 Teacher: Mr Webb
Teaching Assistants: Miss Wren, Mrs Barnett and Mrs Ashton

- Dylan Akhtar
- Roisin Banks
- Emily Barnwell
- Sam Bieron
- Alice Diamond
- Edward Fouracre
- Alex Grove
- Albert Iles
- Darius Ionescu
- Timi Ladele
- Sofie Major
- Leela Matharu
- James Mercer
- Sam Oldham
- Shayla Panchal
- Shiv Patel
- Harry Slaytor
- Alex Thomas
- Maisie Tucker
- Oliver Wright



Digit Dice Maths

The children were challenged to play a dice game which demonstrated their understanding of place value. They rolled a dice to create a 3 digit number - explaining what each part of the number represented. They described how many hundreds, tens and units the number had as well as explaining the highest and lowest total numbers that could be achieved. Some children extended this further by deciding which digit to select for each roll.



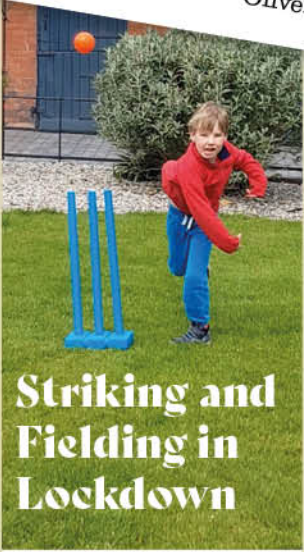
Devising Dragon Tales

Year 2 children read and discussed a variety of dragon tales. They then used their knowledge to become creative authors planning, writing and editing their very own dragon stories.



Striking and Fielding in Lockdown

During lockdown the children worked hard on their striking and fielding. Mrs McCollin and Mr Phillips were very impressed with the level of skills demonstrated by the children. There are clearly some budding Ben Stokes!



FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE VISITED YEAR 2

Year 2 took on the roles of nurses and soldiers when they met with the founder of modern nursing, Florence Nightingale during a special drama workshop with The Freshwater Theatre Company. Florence visited the school to tell the children all about her life and share her nursing legacy. It was an excellent introduction to their new history topic and the children were all engaged and interested as they re-enacted life in the Crimean War.



“During lockdown the children worked hard on their striking and fielding.”



Fantastic Fridge Magnets

Pupils enjoyed getting creative designing their own fridge magnets in the Michaelmas Term, looking at the layering of different materials.

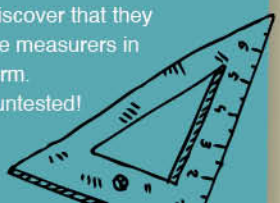
They created designs using corrugated card, on the theme of animals or TV characters, and foam, using the theme of geometric shapes.

The results were fantastic and lots of Junior Da Vinci merits were awarded.



RIGHT ANGLE MEASURES

Year 2 children were thrilled to discover that they had their own portable right angle measurers in Maths during the Michaelmas Term. Nothing around them remained untested!





Year 3 Teacher: Mrs Stapleton

Teaching Assistant: Ms Hanson

Esme Barlow
 Chloe Brosnan
 Annalise Capper
 Libby Cooke
 Grace Crowfoot
 Bella Davies
 Zara Eccleson
 Jasper Evans
 Erin Ferguson
 Ellie Gane
 Finlay Hammonds
 Lara Lorimer-Allen
 Harry McBean

Sam McCormick
 Tegan McLeod
 Grace Mercer
 Charlie Millward
 Poppy Morris
 Alex Mulhall
 Zahra Nadeem
 Damilola Oredope
 Yash Patil
 Ava Sheppard
 Bryson Taylor-Jackson
 Mya Toor

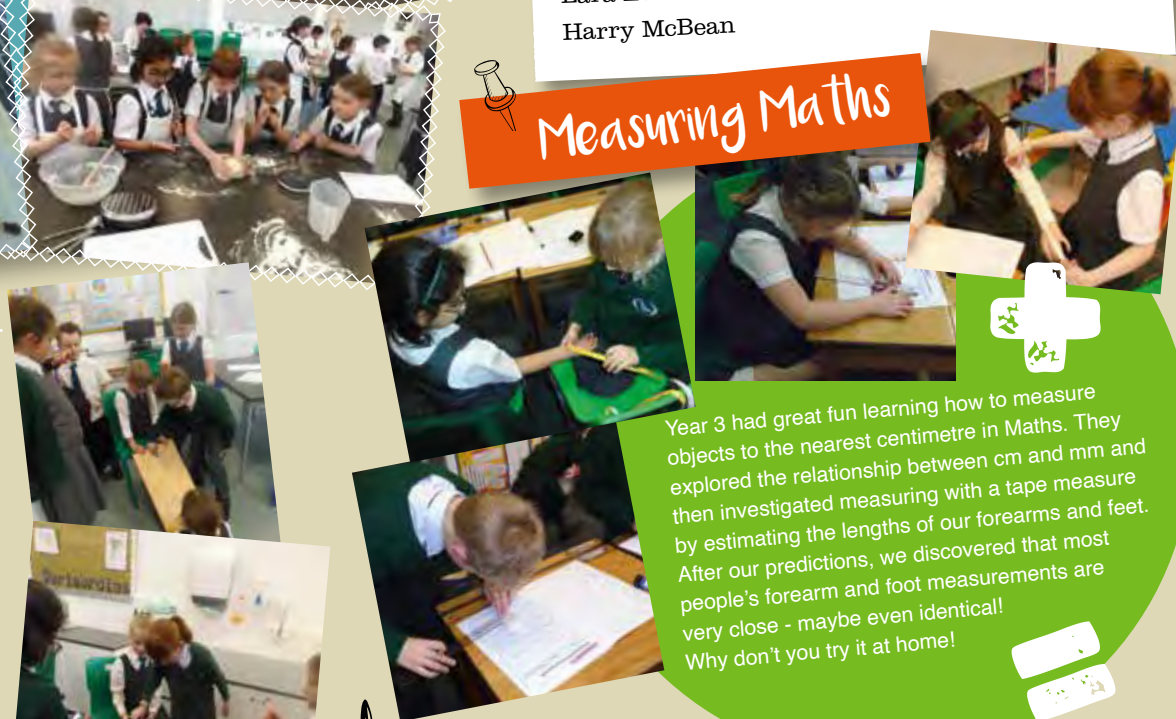
Be a Baker!

Year 3 enjoyed working collaboratively in designing and making their own tasty bread rolls with their own choice of flavours. From learning about the ingredients and equipment to use, to investigating the processes and method, they were very happy with what they finally produced!



Measuring Maths

Year 3 had great fun learning how to measure objects to the nearest centimetre in Maths. They explored the relationship between cm and mm and then investigated measuring with a tape measure by estimating the lengths of our forearms and feet. After our predictions, we discovered that most people's forearm and foot measurements are very close - maybe even identical! Why don't you try it at home!



FINDING OUT ABOUT FRICTION!

The children carried out investigations with different materials when they explored the Science topic of Friction. They used toy cars and ramps to test and record their findings. It was fiendishly, fast, fun!



SELF PORTRAIT ART

At the beginning of the school year, Year 3 worked very hard on drawing and colouring a self-portrait of themselves. They tried to include their unique features so that their teachers would know who was who!



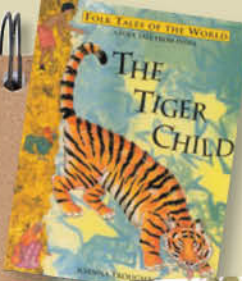
THE TIGER CHILD

Year 3 studied 'The Tiger Child' by Joanna Troughton, the children loved researching these amazing creatures and appreciated their beauty by completing a project of their choice:

Children made:

- ✓ A picture, painting or collage
- ✓ A fact file: poster or PowerPoint
- ✓ A model making activity: clay or other medium
- ✓ A cake or even biscuits!

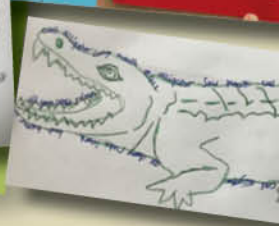
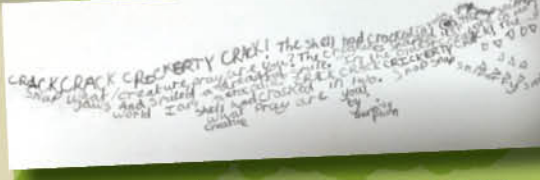
We created a fantastic display for Open Corridors!



Animal poems

Year 3 enjoyed reading and analysing animal poems before creating their very own Animal Anthology books for their families to enjoy.

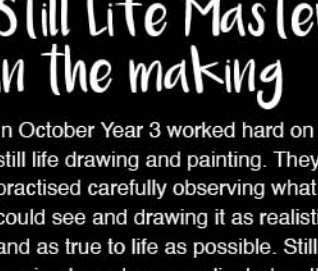
Then they explored Animal Shape Poems and designed their own.



World Human Rights Day

In December Year 3 used their PSHE time to acknowledge World Human Rights Day. Together they explored what was important in terms of living safely and contentedly and discussed what we need in life and what was only a 'want'.

We had a brief journey through the UN Convention on the rights of the child to help us understand what it all meant.



Still Life Masters in the making

In October Year 3 worked hard on their still life drawing and painting. They practised carefully observing what they could see and drawing it as realistically and as true to life as possible. Still life is as simple and as complicated as that!



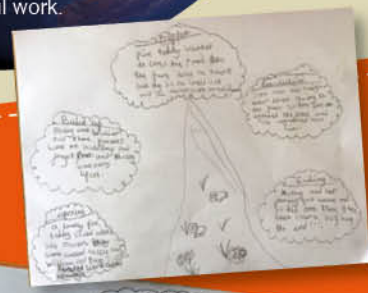
Considering creation

The children reflected on their views about the story of Creation from the Bible and then identified their favourite parts of God's creation through photos, models, drawings and even a beautifully written song. We were impressed by their thoughtful work.

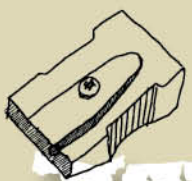


Super Road Safety story writing

Year 3 used the Story Mountain to plan and structure their story writing. It helped them prepare to write adventure stories about crossing the road safely.



Year 4



Year 4 Teacher: Mrs Monteith

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Calder

Faris Akbik

James Ashton

Evie Bieron

Eva Birkinshaw

Stephanie Bolton

Charlotte Corbin

Abigail Cowell

Dorrit Davies

Sophia Deery

Liana Fairlie

Sachin Gupta

Rory King

Katherine Lee

Sophie McCormick

Harriet Mulhall

Drew Ovens Gibbs

Kai Panchal

Chloe Sarkies

Aryan Satsangi

Freya Smith

Rohan Somerset

Grace Symons

Rosina Watson

Caspar Webb



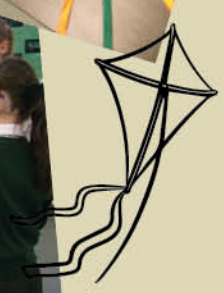
Thrilling Viking Projects

In the second half of the Michaelmas term, Year 4 studied the Vikings, the children enjoyed learning about the Norse people and to develop and share their knowledge they individually completed homework projects. We were thrilled with the results, with a huge range of Viking inspired work including Viking biscuits, movies, PowerPoint presentations and board games, the creativity, perseverance and ingenuity of the children really shone through.



DT Kites

Year 4 loved designing and making kites. They chose their shapes and colours as well as whether to use heavier stronger wooden dowel compared to lighter and softer paper straws. They used newspaper templates to create them and then tested them in the school corridor.



Our Legends

During the Lent Term, one of our fiction topics was 'Legends'. The children studied three texts: *The Seal Children*, *Can You Catch a Mermaid?* and *Beowulf*. The children enjoyed learning about the features of legends, and they relished creating their own creature to star in their own story. They worked hard to produce an illustrated story board of their legends, which made for a fabulous display in the Year 4 classroom.



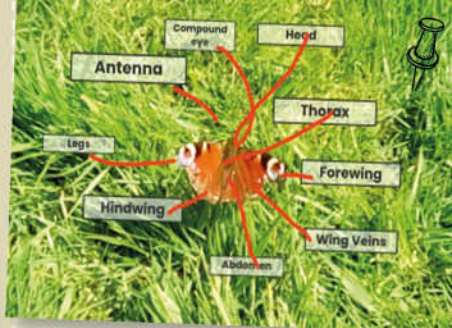
Leap into limericks!

As part of our topic, 'Nonsense Poetry', Year 4 studied and enjoyed limericks. They looked at examples, analysed the structure and rhythm and thought about the rhyming patterns within them. Inspired by Edward Lear, who made limericks famous, they then created some fantastic ones of their own.

there was once a young girl called jane
and she took a trip up memory lane
she looked through her stuff,
all this toys and fluff,
to find nothing but a toy train

There once was a young man named Jake,
who wanted to bake a cake,
he found some fat slugs,
and added some bugs,
but his friend said "O for goodness sake."

There once was a young man named hook
he went to read a book
and then he got distracted
in a show so he got attracted
and could not learn how to cook



BWENGU SPONSORED SILENCE

Year 4 annually raise money for a project we have supported as a school community for years - Bwengu Projects Malawi. In March the class tackled their toughest challenge yet - a 40 minute 'Sponsored Silence!' They all made it through - just!

Science Studies

Year 4 took to their gardens during the lockdown to aid their Science studies. They took close up pictures of invertebrates and then uploaded them onto their computers and labelled the body parts. It was super work from the young scientists.



Researching Rainforests

As part of their persuasive writing topic, Year 4 researched three questions:

Why are rainforests important?

Why are they disappearing?

What can we do to save them?

Their task was to create a persuasive poster highlighting the important issues surrounding rainforests and persuading the reader about what we can do.

The results were both informative and eye catching.



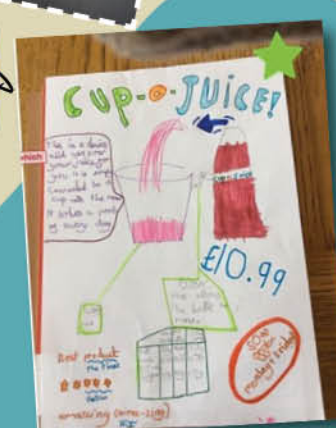
Fun with Fractions!

In October, Year 4 studied fractions. They each contributed a line of fractions to a fraction wall, and that enabled them to see equivalent fractions. They asked each other questions and they all found the answers. What is the same as one half? Is anything the same as two-thirds? Which is bigger, three-eighths or two-sixths? After all that fun they were ready for the next stage - placing fractions on a number line and simplifying them.



CLAY COASTERS

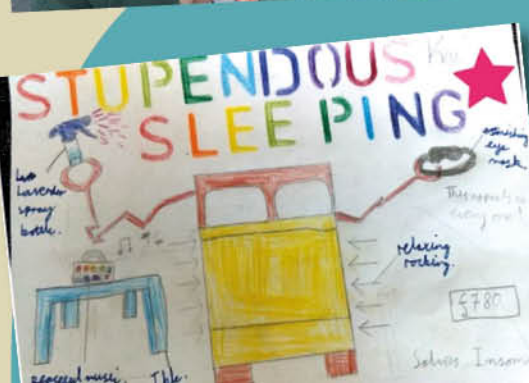
In the autumn Year 4 made clay coasters. They began by designing a theme for their set of coasters thinking carefully what each family member would like. The process of making the coasters took several lessons, as the designs were turned into clay and finally decorated.



INCREDIBLE INVENTIONS

Year 4 really enjoyed studying David Walliams' fiction. They were asked to design a new invention to solve an everyday problem, just like Mr Spud in 'Billionaire Boy', who invented the revolutionary new toilet paper, 'Bumfresh.'

The children rose to the challenge wonderfully with some interesting results. They worked really hard to develop and present their ideas. We think you'll agree; their inventions are incredible and certainly would make life a bit easier!



Year 5



Year 5 Teacher: Ms Forth
Teaching Assistant: Mrs Dowling

- Bella Amblard
- Alyssa Barnett
- Isla Barrack
- Amber Betts
- Ella Brown
- George Crowfoot
- Emme Edge
- Eve Ferguson
- Eden Iles
- Orla Melges
- Michael Mercer
- Asha Mistry
- Jack Moyney

- Isaac Nelson
- Joshua Olnor
- Jay Patil
- Amy Robinson
- George Rule
- Hany Sakr
- Hattie Sarkies
- Caitlyn Simpson-Vince
- Ollie Stevens
- Sahana Talwar
- Amelia Yates



Science Insulators

Year 5 investigated how insulators kept a potato warm. They chose their favourite insulator to cover one of the potatoes and recorded how quickly that one and the control took to cool down. They presented the results in line graphs and were able to draw conclusions from their findings.



MAMMAL LIFECYCLES

Year 5 researched the life cycles of mammals and created their own fact files on their favourites.



DISCOVERING TUTANKHAMUN'S TOMB

Excitement abounded in Year 5's History lesson. As intrepid explorers of the Valley of the Kings discovered the ancient burial site of King Tutankhamun.

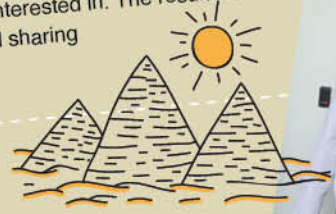
The children were eager to enter the tomb and discover the treasures hidden within. Armed with torches and a strict 10 second time limit, lest the poisonous gases which had built up over thousands of years overcame them, they carefully explored. Teamwork and communication were key as they took turns to complete a group sketch of the artefact they discovered.

Once their mission was complete, the ICT room swiftly returned to its usual state and the children were able to research Tutankhamun and the discovery of his tomb.



EGYPTIAN HOMEWORK PROJECTS

All that super research was an excellent foundation for Year 5's History homework as the children created an Egyptian project of their choice. This open learning activity really allowed the children's creativity to flow and let them explore aspects of the topic which they were particularly interested in. The results were wonderful and the children enjoyed sharing their creations with their class.



3D Instruments

Year 5 worked hard to produce 3D cardboard and papier-mache instruments. The designs were in the style of Braque.



Wallpaper Patterns

Year 5 used nature as inspiration for their Art lessons. They enjoyed designing wallpapers and borders. They produced some really beautiful designs.



English

Year 5 have explored such a range of genres and shown their English in a variety of formats. The children enjoy fiction, non-fiction and poetry; produce beautifully descriptive poetry, well-structured non-fiction and interesting story writing, they also act out their work, talking through their ideas and learning from each other. Within all this they learn, practice and develop their use of grammar. It all builds towards being ready for secondary entrance exams and life beyond Crescent.



The small cicada
Crawls up the gigantic tree
And falls of later.

It falls into a
River and is gobbled by
The hungry green frog.

Many other ones
Tunnel up to the surface
And also scale trees.

Over the night they
Grow transparent silver wings
Which let them fly high.

by Jay Patil



ADDITION OF DECIMALS

Year 5 showed progress in working with decimals by creating a selection of their own questions. They were able to apply their skills to addition with the aid of Post It notes!. They used each other's numbers in their calculations and then feedback to each other to see if they were both correct or not.



Maths Weighing Skills

Year 5 enjoyed improving their weighing skills in Maths. With little input, they had to decide what intervals all the different weighing scales measured in and then record the weights of classroom objects in grams and kilograms.



Weight and Measure at Home

The children then improved their measuring skills using both metric and imperial measures. At home they measured the same amount of capacity, weight and length using different equipment and different scales. An excellent practical application of important life skills.



How tall is Year 5?

The children were asked the question: How tall is our class? They were then given five minutes planning time and half an hour to find the accurate answer in metres. Various pieces of measuring equipment and recording materials were available. After a little discussion the class tackled the open learning problem without help from their teachers.

They recorded the whole class' heights and applied addition skills and established that together the class measured a 35.68m!



HOUSEBUILDERS

A two-week DT project had Year 5 building houses. Having found out about the different types of houses and different houses through the ages, they set about designing a house of their dreams. They drew out plans and set to work making them out of cardboard. Rooms were decorated with wallpaper, carpet and furniture and little toys were added to see if they would fit! Some of them must have taken hours to make!



Year 6Y



Year 6Y Teacher: Mrs Yates
Teaching Assistants:
Mrs Barnett and Mrs Collie

Rania Akbik
 Harry Barnwell
 Phoebe Causer
 Holly Delaney
 Archie Dowling
 Arabella-Rose Drinkwater
 Thomas Ferguson
 Josh Gorbutt
 Ariana Gray

Keshav Gupta
 Arrwinn Kirrbakar
 Ewan Pearce
 Jessica Sarkies
 Sam Sheffield
 Freya Somerset
 Zebedee Styles
 James Wright
 Joseph Yates



Exploring Pop Art

Both the Year 6 classes investigated the genre Pop Art, a movement that emerged in the UK and US during the 1950s, featuring imagery from popular culture. They researched and then applied their learning to create their own Pop Art cubes. They were all very bright and colourful!



Paper aeroplanes

Year 6 had great fun designing and modifying paper aeroplanes in Art. The weather was perfect for them to get outside for some test flights. It's amazing how far some of the paper aeroplanes flew... there were definitely some budding aircraft designers at Crescent!



MEASURING MATHS

Year 6Y had great fun comparing traditional and modern methods of measuring. Using a height measure and a measuring app on the iPads, the children recorded their height in centimetres. Many discussions were had about the most accurate way to use the iPad measure and it was a great way for the children to become familiar with this excellent new resource. We then went on to use our knowledge of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000 to convert between measures.



LA GALETTE DES ROIS

Year 6Y celebrated Epiphany in their French lesson by eating 'La Galette des Rois'. At Epiphany the French buy or make a king's cake to share together. It is traditional to hide a small charm in the cake (called a 'fève') and the person who finds the 'fève' in their slice is the King or Queen for the day.





ART OR GENEROSITY

In RE Year 6 considered the question "Is it better to express your religion in arts and architecture or in charity and generosity?"

From appreciating Christian and Muslim art and places of worship, to exploring the importance of being charitable and the obedience of worshippers, to giving money to different causes, their views were challenged along the way!

6Y debated the argument of whether religious people should sell their buildings and artwork to help the poor. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to voice their opinions, counter argue and respect each groups' reasons and views.



Year 6 and Reception a rite of passage

A valued and important rite of passage here at Crescent is the Year 6 children being buddied up with a Reception child to support them through their first year at school.

Due to the double Year 6 class this year, the Reception children were lucky enough to have two buddies. They started the year with 6Y and in February before half term they spent privilege time together; reading, playing and having fun.

The very proud and slightly emotional Year 6Y said goodbye to their buddies as they handed them over to parents at the end of the day.



MEN'S TOUR OF BRITAIN

In September, we headed off to watch the Men's Cycling Tour of Britain as it passed through Bilton. After a short walk across to Alwyn Road, we saw police motorbikes setting up for the race. We all thoroughly enjoyed cheering and waving at them and the support vehicles as they sounded their horns and sirens at us.

The first cyclists to pass us were the breakaway group of Dylan Van Baarle from Holland, riding for Team Ineos, number 22. Closely followed by Cameron Meyer from Australia riding for Team Mitchelton Scott. They were 2 minutes and 16 seconds ahead of the peloton when they passed us. The peloton raced passed us in a straight-line group followed by ambulances and sponsor cars. As we waved our flags and cheered, some cyclists threw us their bags and water bottle. We were lucky enough to receive 7 different items which we drew names out of a hat for when we arrived back at school.

This was so much fun, thank you to Mrs Byrne, Mr Thackway and Mrs Yates for taking us on this amazing experience.

Factfile by Harry Barnwell

Leaders	Number	Nation	Weight	Height	Age
Dylan Van Baarle	22	Dutch	78kg	1.87m	27
Cameron Meyer	46	Australia	69kg	1.81m	31

Report by Freya Somerset and Joseph Yates



Quotes from our classmates about this experience:

Ariana, "I'm really glad we went to see the cycling tour. I got a Wanty Gilbert team water bottle."

Arabella, "It was cool seeing the Belgian cyclist throw his water bottle."

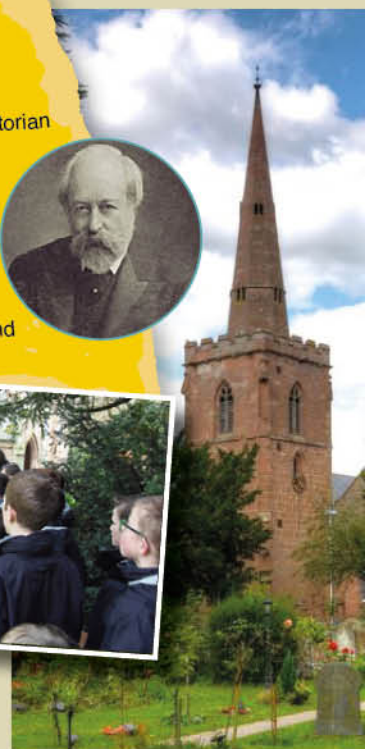
James, "I really enjoyed watching the police motorbikes whiz past."

Sam, "I won the Movistar team bag in the hat draw - I'm really pleased with it!"

Ewan, "There was a great atmosphere."

Victorian times

In the Lent term Year 6 study Bilton during the Victorian era, finding out all sorts of fascinating information about the area the school is situated in. Year 6Y visited St Mark's Church in Bilton to admire the Victorian architecture - the fine work of renowned Victorian architect George Bodley. They enjoyed the tour of the church by the very well-informed Mrs Bevan, friend of the church and retired local Headteacher.



Final week! 17



Invertebrate Houses

Both Year 6 classes researched, designed and made invertebrate houses and hotels. They carefully considered the component materials, the design and the process of construction. After making them, they placed them outside and waited to see who would take up residence.



Year 6W Teacher: Mrs Webb
Teaching Assistants: Mrs Barnett, Mrs Collie and Mrs Nelson

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| George Bell | Marco Rodriguez-Hernandez |
| Henry Corbin | Izzy Slaytor |
| Harriett Gray | Eleanor Stern |
| Milly Knott | Matthew Thomas |
| Fifi Lloyd | Issy Thompson |
| Kyla-Mae Milestone | Theo Wells |
| Sienna Moran | Chloe Wensley |
| Euan Nelson | Noah Windley |
| Tumi Oredope | Maryn Yates |
| Daniel Ovens Gibbs | |

Mr Hester's STEAM Challenge



Year 6 welcomed Foundation Head, Ed Hester, in February for a special STEAM Challenge. Mr Hester began by stressing the importance of the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) subjects to the modern world. He shared with the children how they run through all our lives and how, as pupils of the Foundation, they could embrace STEAM to forge their own futures.

He then tested their STEAM knowledge. Working in groups he asked the pupils a series of questions on a wide range of topics, from binary to bones, scientists to stars to the speed of light and even mind-boggling optical illusions, the children all enjoyed puzzling out the answers. After the quiz Mr Hester set them one further design challenge. Using just tape, scissors and index cards, pupils worked together to build a free-standing tower. The children all took different approaches, testing out structures and the towers began to grow. In just ten minutes many were reaching lofty heights, with the tallest finally measuring in at over 70cm. It was a lot of fun!



Year 6 visit to St Mark's Church

As part of their history topic, the Victorians, Year 6 visited St Mark's Church. The children explored the churchyard to find headstones from the Victorian era. They recorded names, ages, dates and interesting observations were made about the time period, including the size of families, the young age of deaths and the number of children who died.

We were fortunate to be accompanied on the trip by Mrs Bevan, a church member and former local head teacher. She showed the children around the church and pointed out lots of beautiful Victorian features including the ornate church pews designed and built by the prestigious Victorian architect, George Bodley. Mrs Bevan was a wonderful source of information about the church's history and we all thoroughly enjoyed learning about the changes St Mark's, and the village of Bilton, saw during the time of Queen Victoria.



Healthy Me PSHE



In PHSE Year 6 reflected on how to keep healthy. As an extra challenge, 6W chose to have a healthy snack every day. They brought a wide variety of fruits and vegetables to school. They then reflected on the challenge and recognised the healthier they are the more they can fight illness. Keep up the good habits 6W!



3D SHAPES

In November, Year 6 investigated 3D shapes and nets. The open learning task allowed the children to choose their own path and activity; ranging from constructing nets out of 'Klikko' to using their geometry skills to draw and make their own nets.



DT Food Development and Evaluation

Year 6 spent their DT lessons researching, tasting, designing and making their own Cornish pasties or Samosas. The children selected ingredients they thought would work together, made their pastry or samosa and then evaluated their finished product. We had plenty of interesting combinations and different shapes and sizes.



World War I

In September Year 6 studied historical fiction, focusing on World War I, they reviewed *War Game* by Michael Foreman and *War Horse* by Michael Morpurgo. They used the novels to revise expanded noun phrases, subordinate noun clauses and fronted adverbials.

The topic culminated in an open learning task where the children were asked to produce a piece of writing about World War I in the genre of their choice. They met the challenge well and their work went on display for Open Corridors.



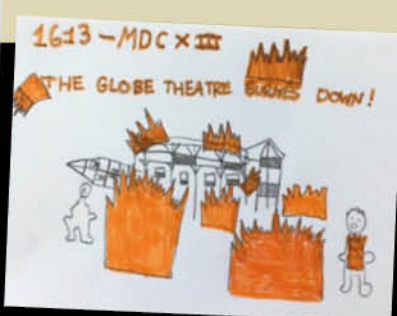
Privilege Time



SHAKESPEARE TIMES



In June, Year 6 enjoyed a wide range of activities, all linked with Shakespeare. Pupils gave directions in French around Stratford-upon-Avon, played a form of croquet in sport, enjoyed Elizabethan dancing in PE, explored a play in Latin, studied Macbeth in English, built the Globe Theatre in DT, completed map work in Geography, used Elizabethan money and Elizabethan numerals in Maths to name just some of the fun themed learning activities.





Everyone Loves A Baby!

The Reception children took to the stage to tell the story of 'Everyone Loves A Baby'.

Except the only problem was, that the lovely children in the Nativity would rather have anything but a baby, maybe... a dog... a donkey... or even a camel instead!

That was until a very special baby was born. The children couldn't believe why all the people would come from near and far to visit this baby. But the amazing thing about this baby, was that he came to bring God's love to everyone.

That called for a party and everyone was invited. The children were allowed to stay up late to celebrate... and they realised that maybe babies weren't so bad after all!

It was a fantastic performance that all the parents and families very much enjoyed.



The Bethlehem Star

The Key Stage 1 Nativity told the story of 'The Bethlehem Star', a newspaper just desperate for a scoop! The editor sent her reporters out to find a story worth telling. Something to beat 'The Desert Sun' and 'The Daily Veil' - and not just any old story about a donkey who hurt his hoof or some slippery olive oil thieves.

So off they went, all around Bethlehem, to see what they could find, to the market-place, the shepherds and eventually the very best inn in town where they got a scooper-dooper of a story, the news that a new king, Jesus, had been born.

A wonderful production, full of simple humour, both the audience and children enjoyed, The Bethlehem Star really was a fabulously, funny retelling of the much-loved Christmas story.



“ A wonderful production, full of simple humour. ”





A Loveliness of Ladybirds

The Pre-Prep children together with youngsters from Pathfinders Nursery performed their Open Morning production, *The Selfish Ladybird*, in front of a proper audience of the older school children and staff in late March.

A lot of hard work had gone into the rehearsals, learning the songs, memorising lines, sorting out costumes, scenery and planning the production, and what a lovely ladybird spectacle it proved to be. Telling the story of Lucinda and her search for advice about sharing and friendship, it showcased the wonderful talents, confidence and stage presence of Crescent School's youngest pupils.

It was a really fabulous story full of plenty of terrific songs, and the children enjoyed flitting and hovering around.

“ It was a really fabulous story. ”

Music

Prep school orchestras put on an impressive show

In March, Crescent School hosted musicians from Crackley Hall, for an orchestral workshop. It was a great opportunity for the young virtuosos to play together, and develop and stretch their music and performance skills.

The children enjoyed a busy morning and afternoon of rehearsals, they relished making music together, especially in such a big group. They worked hard to prepare three challenging pieces, including the instantly recognisable 'I Am Sailing' by Rod Stewart, two complicated movements, 'Woody's Round Up' and 'When She Loves Me', from Toy Story 2 and the catchy big band number 'The Mood' by Glen Miller. All of the pieces tested the players' technical and music-reading ability to the limit.

It was a fantastic opportunity for them to play with different instruments and with so many other talented musicians. It was a great to see the young musicians enjoying learning and working together!

“Everybody helped and supported each other. I did a solo and it was nerve-racking at first, but I was very proud with what I achieved.”

HOLLY DELANEY,
ORCHESTRA MONITOR



Princethorpe Chapel hosts Crescent Carol Service

The annual school carol service took place on Tuesday 17 December, in the glorious setting of Our Lady of the Angels Chapel at Princethorpe College.

Parents, grandparents and friends were warmly welcomed to a wonderful evening of carols, readings and the re-telling of the Christmas story.

The traditional festive service did not disappoint, the orchestra played superbly while the voices of the choir sang out with much loved music that brought families together to celebrate the beginning of the Christmas period.

It was a lovely celebration and a perfect end to the Michaelmas Term.

“Parents, grandparents and friends were warmly welcomed.”





Joint Choral Workshop a highlight of the term

In November children from Crackley Hall School and Crescent School had a fantastic, full day of uplifting and inspiring singing when they took part in a joint Foundation Junior School choral workshop. They worked together to prepare and rehearse a mix of joint and individual choral and solo pieces ready for an afternoon concert for parents.

The joint musical initiative was a very successful day, one of the highlights of the term. Both schools have such a strong musical tradition. There is plenty of talent within the schools and the choral workshop helped to inspire pupils.



“It was such a good experience thanks to Mrs Barnes and Mrs Olden and we all loved it.”

MARYN YATES, CHOIR MONITOR

Crescent's first virtual concert

Although the country was in lockdown, Director of Music, Julie Barnes, was determined that Crescent's music lovers weren't going to miss out on their termly treat. So thanks to her dedication and with a bit of help from technology, the Crescent School presented 22 talented young musicians in its first ever 'Socially Distanced Virtual Concert' in May.

Each of the children pre-recorded their concert performances at home and sent the video through to Mrs Barnes. The individual clips were put together into a programme of pieces. They included musicians from Year 2 through to Year 6 and a mix of traditional and contemporary pieces. Introduced by Mrs Barnes, the concert included instantly recognisable favourites such as 'The Pink Panther', 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang', 'Fly Me To The Moon', 'Dr Who' and 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star'.

And it all went down a treat!



“It all went down a treat!”

Foundation musicians and vocalists perform The Climb

As a finale to the end of the year Crescent's musicians and vocalists joined performers from across the Foundation, to deliver an awe-inspiring performance of Miley Cyrus' magical and moving ballad 'The Climb'.

Together nearly 90 pupils and staff performed this beautiful song, the lyrics of which describe a difficult but rewarding journey, the challenge to keep the faith so appropriate for the year the school had just experienced.

I may not know it, but these are the moments that I'm going to remember most, just got to keep going.

And I've got to be strong, just keep pushing on!

There's always going to be another mountain I'm always going to want to make it move,

Always going to be an uphill battle, sometimes I'm going to have to lose

Ain't about how fast I get there, ain't about what's waiting on the other side

It's the climb!

With pupils from Reception right up to Upper Sixth, and staff representing all three schools including the Head of the Foundation, Ed Hester, 'The Climb' serves as a heart-warming and inspirational reminder of this singularly unusual moment in the Foundation's history.

Put together by Princethorpe College, Director of Music, Gil Cowlshaw, it was a wonderfully entertaining and inspirational end to the 2019-20 academic year!

You can watch the performance here:
<https://vimeo.com/434676980>



Rugby



To celebrate the Rugby World Cup, Crescent took part in a local U11 Tag Rugby tournament. Wasps got involved in the organisation as did local MP Mark Pawsey.

Each school represented a country and we were given Ireland. The children made flags (thanks to Josh G and Sam S for this) and learned the chorus of 'Ireland's Call.'

In the matches, the Crescent children won two matches and drew one in the pool. Their defensive work was superb and they showed great handling and running going forward. In the semi-final, Ireland just lost out to France 3-2 but then won the third/fourth playoff to finish third overall.



Boys Football

After a confident warm up at the Princethorpe Tournament the U10 Boys went on to compete in the ISA Midlands Football Tournament.

With the two Georges looking dominant, Isaac excellent in goal, Kai and Sachin giving energy to the team and Joshua looking dangerous up front, Crescent won their first three games before being held to a draw by a strong Birchfield team. Through to the three-team final, they just lost against Edenhall but then beat Ruckleigh 2-1 to finish in overall second place.



Swimming



ISA Midlands Junior Swimming Gala

In October Crescent took part in the ISA Midlands Junior Swimming Gala. The children swam 25m in the pool and the races included both individual events and team relays. Crescent's pupils showed great confidence, teamwork and skill at the gala.

A number had swum before and showed their progress through their much improved finishing positions and personal best times. It quickly became clear that Crescent were one of the dominant schools which was a first for this competition. In the end, Crescent finished 3rd overall on points out of the 24 schools taking part with the Year 6 Girls finishing 2nd.

Sienna and Stephanie made it through to the National Finals in Breaststroke and Freestyle respectively. Other notable performances included: Eve 3rd in Backstroke and Josh 3rd in Breaststroke, Marco came 3rd in Butterfly and the Year 6 Boys Medley Relay team were 2nd (George B, Josh, Marco and Ewan).

The National ISA Swimming Championships took place at the London Aquatics Centre, at the end of November. Stephanie Bolton swam in the Midlands Freestyle Relay team earning herself a gold medal and then claimed a bronze in the Year 4 individual 50m Freestyle when she finished in third place in a time of 41.42 seconds. Year 6 pupil, Sienna Moran placed second for a silver medal in the individual 50m Breaststroke in 45.17 seconds and just missed a second medal after the Midlands team finished fourth in the 4x50m Medley Relay. We were very proud of both girls.



IAPS Gala

There was a great effort and focus from the swimming team at the qualifying IAPS Gala in February with the children vying for a place in the top 16 to qualify for the National Finals. It was great to see our children up at or near the front on most occasions despite swimming against larger schools.

Sienna was excellent in the breaststroke, Ewan was second in his backstroke and the U11 boys medley relay team (Ewan, Sam, Marco and Matthew) won their race. Other notable performances included Sam who won comfortably in breaststroke and Stephanie who swam a year up in the U10 butterfly race and came second.

In June the IAPS National Swimming Qualifiers were confirmed. We were so pleased yet so disappointed that 'The Nationals' wouldn't go ahead. They were our best results ever! Sienna 9th overall in U11 breaststroke, Marco 17th in U11 butterfly and U11 Boys' Medley Relay Team 20th all would have swum at the National Finals in London. Other notable results included Ewan 26th in U11 backstroke and Sam 27th in U11 breaststroke. Over 150 schools took part in the competition this year. Huge congratulations to all the children who took part.

“They were our best results ever!”



Hockey



Crescent's U11 Mixed Hockey team won the ISA Midlands Tournament in early November. It was a thrilling seven-a-side competition with 10 teams from across the region taking part.

In the first-round Crescent confidently dispatched three teams with good wins. In the afternoon they faced a further four matches in a round robin competition. Crescent comfortably won all their matches without conceding a single goal to finish the tournament in first place. They beat Stafford Prep School 1-0, Birchfield School 2-0, Old Vicarage School 2-0 and then Dixie Grammar School 6-0. An excellent result.



“Crescent comfortably won all their matches without conceding a single goal to finish the tournament in first place.”

The U11 Boys then travelled to Rugby School for the annual IAPS tournament qualifier. Crescent surged through the group stage with four 2-0 wins.

George's reverse stick finishes were a highlight along with some lovely passing moves. In the quarter finals, they faced their local rivals Bilton Grange. Having lost to them in the previous tournament, the boys were quick to snuff out the counter-attacks and more energetic on the restarts. Crescent won 3-0. Solihull awaited them in the semi-final. It was a closely fought battle and Josh, who had had little to do up until that point, showed good concentration levels to pull off some great saves when called upon. The match ended 0-0 and went to golden goal extra time. Crescent won a short corner halfway into the extra time. Following a blocked strike at goal, the ball fell to Archie. He hit the ball goal-wards, the shot deflected off a Solihull stick and nestled in the roof of the net. Crescent had reached the final.



Crescent U11 Boys played in the Vartan/Veit Tournament at Bilton Grange. Starting against Foremarke, the boys looked a little tentative and finished in a 0-0 draw.

Then they played Radcliffe College where Crescent were more dominant, and won 4-0, that helped qualify them for the triangular playoff. Despite some great chances, the boys could not break through Bilton Grange's goalkeeper and after a melee, at their own end, they went down 0-1. In the last match, Crescent overcame Bromsgrove to finish runners-up overall.

“In the last match, Crescent overcame Bromsgrove to finish runners-up overall.”



Against Moultsford, the boys were on the attack straight away. With the game heading for extra time again, Archie found space on the left by-line. He tiptoed around two sticks and laid it into George in the D. George coolly slotted the ball to the side of the keeper and into the goal. The hooter sounded straight afterwards which meant that Crescent were Regional Champions and had qualified once again for the Nationals.



In November the U11 Girls hockey team took part in the ISA National Hockey Tournament. Crescent School started in Pool B and faced four games in the first round.

The girls played brilliantly and didn't concede a goal in the group stage. They finished at the top of the pool and qualified for the Cup competition. In the quarter-finals they faced Lewes Old Grammar School and despite losing to Lewes 0-1, the girls went on to finish in joint fifth overall out of the 23 schools from across the country taking part - it was a great achievement.



Netball



Crescent started the netball season against Kingsley School and plenty of fabulous footwork, strong fast passing and wonderful team work, helped both the U11A and the U11B teams to confident wins.

The U10s had a harder time of it against some tall defenders. The girls worked hard displayed improved awareness of space on court and made some 'gutsy' interceptions when under pressure from the attacking players.

ISA Midland Tournament

The U11 Girls competed in the ISA Midland Tournament in Malvern. The girls gave 100% effort and commitment to every game, and finished 2nd in our pool to qualify for the semi-finals. A tightly fought match in the semi's finished with a 4-3 loss and in the play off against Dodderhill, the girls couldn't quite convert their chances. They finished fourth out of 18 schools.

The U10 Girls displayed fantastic agility and strength on court at the U10 ISA Netball Midland Tournament. Winning the first four games comfortably, they had to change tactics against a very tall Twycross team. The Semi Finals against Crackley Hall were end to end excitement, that sadly went in Crackley's favour this time. Through to the 3rd place play off against Stafford Prep, the girls showed the true meaning of the words grit and determination. After finishing the first half 4-0 down they kept their heads, stayed composed and came back for a 5-4 win to take 3rd place.



Cross Country



In February, 20 students from Years 4, 5 and 6 travelled to Bedstone College in Shropshire to take part in the Midlands ISA cross country event.

The U9 Girls and Boys had a 1500m course while the U11s took on a 1800m course that crossed two streams. Always a popular event, some 120 pupils were involved in each race, Crescent's runners raced well, managing the tricky conditions fantastically. Archie Dowling came 6th in his race and Evie Bieron came 9th, both qualified to represent the Midlands team at the National Final



CSW Virtual School Games

During the Lockdown Crescent School's pupils enthusiastically took part in the CSW School Games Virtual Challenge, an exciting programme of sporting competition running throughout the summer term.

Week 1 focused on Athletics Skills whilst Week 2 was all about Cricket Skills and in both weeks Crescent pupils' hard work helped the school win the Primary School Participation Award.

After the half term week, Week 3 concentrated on Tennis and featured two skill challenges, the Target Throw and the Switch. 2255 participants took part from 171 schools and the school was delighted that this week George from Year 6W, took 2nd place in the Key Stage 2 tennis results.

Week 4 of the challenge tested pupils' Dance Skills especially their determination, passion and self-belief. As well as taking part in the challenges the children could also submit their own dance video and a number were selected for the celebration compilation video.

Link <https://t.co/BmkZZ73GyR>

Across the region 1,577 children took part in this week's competition from a total of 135 schools and we were delighted to find out that Crescent was again the top participating primary school in the Eastern Warwickshire area.

It was wonderful to see the children participating so enthusiastically in the Virtual School Games.



“ It was wonderful to see the children participating so enthusiastically ”

Virtual Sports Day

Sports Day is one of the highlights of the Crescent School year. The children always take it seriously but compete with good humour, encouraging each other to do their very best.

Not wanting to miss this important annual event, the Year 6 children put together a series of five activities for the children to take part in. Points were awarded for participation and for how well the children performed with the House earning the most points claiming the coveted House Sports Trophy.

There were lots of enthusiastic entries with the results are as follows:

1st - St. David's: 513 points

2nd - St. George's: 492 points

3rd - St. Andrew's: 486 points

In terms of individual results placings were as follows:

Pre-Prep

1st Alex Thomas, 2nd Alex Grove, 3rd Shiv Patel and 4th Matthew Lee/Akaal Rai

Years 3 and 4

1st Aryan Satsangi/Rohan Somerset, 2nd Grace Crowfoot 3rd Liana Fairle and 4th Charlie Millward/Esme Barlow

Years 5 and 6

1st Sam Sheffield (full marks!), 2nd George Bell, 3rd Keshav Gupta/Sienna Moran and 4th Issy Thompson

A huge well done to everyone who took part.



Recognition and Success



County Cricket call up for Amy

Amy Robinson was selected for the Warwickshire's Development of Excellence Cricket Squad for their U11 Girls. Year 5, Amy, was only nine-years-old and has been playing cricket since she was just six.

Amy took part in a six-week trial with the Warwickshire coaches at Edgbaston during October and November where she showed her hardball batting, bowling and fielding skills. She was chosen to train weekly at Edgbaston through the winter until March honing her cricket skills, with a view to being selected for the summer squad to play matches against other counties.

A key member of Crescent's U11 cricket team, Amy was one of only 20 girls selected for the squad and impressed the coaches with her all-round excellent play.



Exhibition of Young Local Artists 2020

The 'Exhibition of Young Local Artists', was established back in 1985. It brings together local primary schools to celebrate art and showcase young talent. The array and diversity of the pieces exhibited is always phenomenal.

Crescent School was delighted that some of our children's work was selected for display, including work from art lessons on Pop Art, Seurat and Silhouettes.

Congratulations to:

Pop Art	Seurat	Silhouettes
Chloe W	Bella D	Darius
Harriett G	Chloe B	Leela
Kyla-Mae	Zahra	
Sam S		
Maryn		



National Children's Brass Band blown away by Henry



10-year-old Henry Corbin first picked up the cornet when he was just seven-years-old and has been taking lessons at school ever since. Such is his progression that in the intervening three years he has already achieved Grade 5.

Henry auditioned for the prestigious National Children's Brass Band of Great Britain and just before Christmas received the wonderful news that he had been selected.

Henry is a talented player and a stalwart of the school orchestra and brass group. He practises regularly and also plays for the local Bilton Silver Training Band. In recent years Henry has been called on to play the 'Last Post' at a number of local Remembrance Services.

It was a huge achievement for Henry and we were delighted and very proud of him.



Crescent School Pupils' LAMDA results are outstanding yet again



All 83 Crescent pupils who took the London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art (LAMDA) examinations back in January passed with the overwhelming majority, 80 pupils, achieving a distinction.

Children from Year 3-6 study for the examinations in their Drama lessons as part of the school's curriculum. Years 3-4 take the Introductory level, Stages 1 and 2 respectively, while Years 5-6 study the Communications - Speaking Verse and Prose, Entry and Grade 1 examinations.

The children prepare poems to perform. They are judged on interpretation, technique and knowledge. They have to consider their diction, expression and movement and be able to discuss their choices of poems with their examiner.

“This was a superb set of results, some of the best the school has ever seen.”

Drama teacher Kim Thompson explains, “What’s brilliant about the LAMDA exams is that they equip the children with communication skills which will serve them throughout life. They not only promote an appreciation of literature and poetry, but also help unlock their imagination and creative-thinking. This was a superb set of results, some of the best the school has ever seen.”

Congratulations to all of the children, Crescent School is very proud of you. These results are a reflection of your hard work both in and out of school.

Pupils recognised in local Literary Competition

Congratulations to Crescent pupils, George Crowfoot, Emme Edge and Izzy Slaytor, whose entries were recognised in this year's Rupert Brooke Literary competition.

Established in 1987 to commemorate the birth of poet Rupert Brooke, the award is an annual creative writing competition organised by Rugby School open to school pupils local to the Rugby area.

Sarah Webb, Assistant Head, commented, “Year 5 and Year 6 pupils enjoyed crafting creative stories on the subject of ‘The Body’ for the Rupert Brooke Literary Award. They put a lot of time and effort in, to showcase their best English skills, and it is lovely to see that their hard work has been recognised.”

George Crowfoot was awarded 3rd place.

Emme Edge and Izzy Slaytor both had their entries awarded a Highly Commended.

Alix Scott-Martin from Rugby School said, “Thank you for submitting such strong entries for this year’s Rupert Brooke Literary Prize. These students should feel particularly proud of themselves as we received over 200 entries.”



“These students should feel particularly proud of themselves as we received over 200 entries.”

Maths Dash Competition

24 children from Year 2 through to Year 5 completed a series of challenges, which tested their teamwork and communication skills in addition to their mathematical knowledge.

Overseen by the Year 6 House Captains and working in groups of four, they took it in turns, as pairs, to problem solve and answer before dashing to their Captain to check their answers and for the next question.

The children all worked exceptionally well, sharing ideas, demonstrating their impressive mathematical abilities and supporting each other.

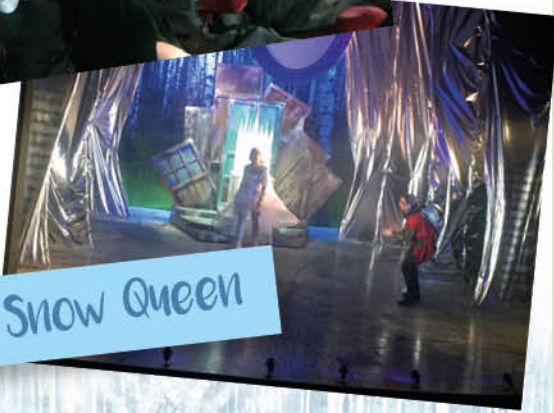
Well done to everyone who took part and a special congratulations to St Andrew’s who finished in first place and were awarded a Diamond Trophy in Assembly.



Trips and Visits



The Snow Queen



Years 3 and 4 went to the Old Rep Theatre in Birmingham for their Christmas theatre visit to watch 'The Snow Queen'.

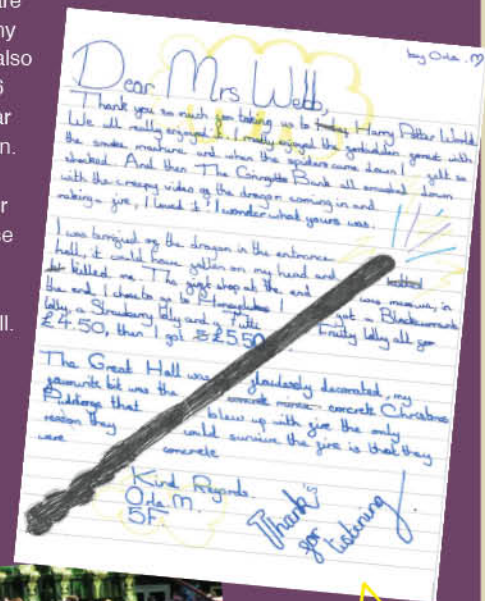
The story, originally a Hans Christian Andersen tale, centres around a struggle between good and evil. This adaptation of the magical adventure follows inseparable friends Kai and Gerda. When the heartless Snow Queen steals Kai to help rebuild her broken treasure, Gerda travels to the Kingdom of Ice to confront the Snow Queen and rescue her friend. The production was bright and colourful, full of dancing and singing. A great time was had by all.



Warner Brothers Studio

In December Years 5 and 6 set off on an adventure to the Warner Brothers studio.

The Harry Potter books are read and enjoyed by many of the children, they are also studied in depth in Year 6 so the trip had a particular resonance for the children. They had a great time exploring the Harry Potter scenes and got to practise being wizards too! Orla wrote about the trip and summed it all up very well.



Harry Potter



“ I mostly enjoyed the Forbidden Forest with the smoke machine and when the spiders came down I felt shocked! ”

Fire Brigade visit years 1 & 2

In February four firefighters came to meet Years 1 and 2 to talk about fire safety.

It was a really interactive session, first the children considered the firefighters uniform and found out how it keeps them safe in a fire. Then they learned the difference between a safe and unsafe fire and some fire prevention tips. Finally, they practised the 'Stop, Drop and Roll' technique that you should use if your clothes catch fire. Looking at the fire truck was a special highlight for the children. So much discussion and learning took place that will hopefully keep the children fire safe for life.



Participatory Theatre is always a hit

Image Musical Theatre returned to the Crescent School in October to stage a production of 'Pinocchio' to the whole school.

As always, the children got to join in with the super story-telling session. It was an excellent performance full of comedy and wit and the children sat focused and fully engaged. The theatre company cleverly brought the classic tale to life and the children really enjoyed singing all the songs. Well done to Crescent's budding actors who joined in taking to the stage eagerly and delivering their lines with aplomb. It was another great morning of engaging learning and fantastic fun.



Reading Superstars

Accelerated Reader builds a strong reading ethic

Reading is so important for children, supporting the development of their language and literacy skills as well as enabling their imaginations and helping to enrich their lives.

The Crescent's approach to literacy is supported by Renaissance's Accelerated Reader system. Children take a quiz after reading each book that tests their understanding. Its approach promotes reading for pleasure whilst ensuring the children read appropriately challenging books. It also totals up the books and words read.

The school has such a strong reading ethic that you might be amazed by just how many words are read. During 2019-20 the children in each year group read:

Year 3 - over 3 million words

Year 4 - over 24 million words

Year 5 - over 17 million words

Year 6W - over 28 million words

Year 6Y - over 19 million words

Across the school 30 children read over 1 million words, and a few read many many more! Daniel read over 9 million, Matthew read over 6 million and Harry B and Matthew T read over 5 million.

Daniel - Nine Million words and still counting



Last year, Crescent School pupil, Daniel Ovens Gibbs, read an impressive six million words and 65 books.

This year 11-year-old Daniel has gone one step better. As we approached the last weeks of the summer term, Daniel broke through the nine million words mark after reading an astonishing 106 books during the school year.

Daniel is modest about his achievement saying, "I love reading – it takes me into a world of adventure and stimulates my imagination. My favourite time to read is in the evening; it helps me wind down after the day." Some of Daniel's favourite reads this year have included, 'The Return of Sherlock Holmes', 'The Earthsea Saga' (series of books) and 'The Lantern Bearers' – all great mystery and adventure stories full of drama and suspense to captivate their reader.

Outside of school, Daniel reads most days but, just like any other boy, he also plays sports such as hockey, tennis and sailing and finds time to practise the piano and flute.

Determined not to be outdone Daniel's younger brother Drew got in on the act too. By the end of the year, Year 4 pupil, Drew had clocked up over 4 million words.

Assistant Head, Sarah Webb, who leads on literacy at the Crescent School, explains, "We have a very positive reading culture here at Crescent, it is cool for boys to read,

many of our boys in Year 6 have the reading age of a 16-year-old. There are just so many good books out there for boys to read these days. Pupils from Year 3 onwards take part in the reading challenge and can quiz daily on the computers before school. We find the boys respond really well to the competitive nature of the challenge. Daniel has been our top reader for several years, but it is an absolutely awe-inspiring achievement that he read nine million words during the year."

Zahra zoomed through the library

Year 3 pupil, Zahra has developed a wide vocabulary and understanding of grammar, from her love of reading. From fact to fiction, from classics to comedy, Zahra devoured 143 books during the school year, with an astonishing quizzing average of 97%. She was also able to complete 34 vocabulary quizzes which fed into her day to day writing and her superbly structured story writing.

Well done Zahra.



Whizz-ard Kid Ellie nearly read two million words

Year 3, Ellie is a simply, sensational reader and at the age of 8-years-old she finished JK Rowling's Harry Potter series. In just three months Ellie devoured the wonderful wizarding stories, that can often be found on the reading lists for children in secondary school.

On Accelerated Reader Ellie quizzed on all the books achieving an average pass rate of 90% which is way above the target set by her teacher Sam Stapleton. Whizz-ard kid Ellie read so many words during lockdown that she was close to becoming a double millionaire.

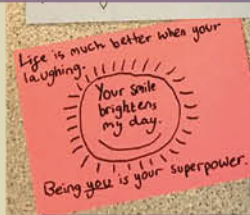
Ellie's reading achievement was amazing, and we were all super impressed with her wizardry literacy skills.



Five Ways to Wellbeing



An important initiative in school this year has been the development of our Wellbeing programme. We held our first Wellbeing Day in February, where we introduced to the children the importance of emotional and mental health. There was a real buzz around the school as the children engaged with all the different activities.



The day began with an assembly where we shared how we as a school are planning to provide space and resources to help everyone and then the children all took part in a carousel of activities relating to the five ways of 'Wellbeing' as identified by the NHS and the Mental Health Foundation.



The children enjoyed the sessions that helped them Connect, Learn, be Active, take Notice and Give - or C.L.A.N.G. for short!



Our first Wellbeing Day was well planned, well executed and well received by everyone!

We were encouraged by the engagement of the children and their ability to understand and reflect on their own lives. Each child collected stickers during the day and then created an action plan to make changes for the better and they are all looking forward to another Wellbeing Day next year.



Fantastic FoC!



We had an amazing start to the school year raising **£3,300**

in the Michaelmas term from Cake Sales, Movie Night, Christmas Cards and Gifts, Quiz Night plus the Christmas Bazaar where we took an incredible £2,000 profit! We also raised £1,200 from the Scholastic book sale and £578 for Macmillian

We also held the first FoC AGM in October which took us a step forward to being registered as a charity and gaining charity status.

In the Lent Term we got off to a great start with the Year 3 Cake Sale raising £150, Movie Night £270 profit and Mother's Day raising £300 profit.



Unfortunately, all events after that had to be cancelled including the Summer Fete, our biggest earner of the year.

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported all the events as well as to all my wonderful FoC helpers, both parents and grandparents, and all the teaching staff who give so much of their time to this wonderful committee.

We say goodbye to Emma Wells this year who has been on the committee for eight years and was our former treasurer. You'll be missed.

This year, through fundraising we have been able to purchase equipment for 'The Wren's Nest' Wellbeing Room, play equipment for the EYFS outdoor learning area, filmed both the 'Selfish Ladybird' and the Year 6 Leavers' Assembly, as parents were unable to attend these events, and provide cakes and ice-creams for all the children who returned to school after lockdown. We also purchased the customary Leavers' Hoodies for all of Year 6 - a massive thank you to Jodie Edge for getting these printed in time for Year 6 returning to school.

We are looking forward to the next academic year when our events will be a bit different but we will do everything possible to put as many on as we can.

Thank you, take care and keep safe everyone.

By **Zara Corbin**



“ Thank you to everyone who attended and supported all these events.”



Goodbyes

“ We say goodbye to Alice Wren, Matt Phillips and Pat Lines and thank them for all their support at the Crescent.”

Alice Wren



In March we said goodbye to one of our longest serving members of staff. Alice Wren had been with the school since 1992 and worked in a range of capacities, most recently as our resident Pre-Prep reading expert. The daughter of Mr Ian Wren, a previous headmaster here, when he retired she stayed on as a teaching assistant and was a really valuable TA and much-loved colleague. Many children here, both past and present, have benefited enormously from Alice's kindness, patience and expertise. We wished her well in her move to Cardiff and the next phase of her life. In her honour we named the new Wellbeing space the 'Wren's Nest' which delighted her.

Matt Phillips



At the end of the year we said farewell to Mr Matt Phillips who has been a popular member of staff at Crescent since 2007. Over the years he has developed his role from being the Year 3 form tutor and Head of PSHE and Citizenship, to becoming a master of Computing and a force to be reckoned with as Head of Games. He will be much missed.

When such a long-standing teacher leaves his post, it is natural to consider what legacy Mr Phillips will leave behind. I'm sure you will all have your memories and favourite quotes from him and it was evident from the Memory Book that the children put together that they have learned such a lot from him, have enjoyed being with him and are so thankful for all the opportunities, experiences and achievements they have had under his leadership.

Pat Lines



In March we also said goodbye to Pat Lines, who was moving to Yorkshire to be nearer to her family. A retired teacher, Pat had supported the children with their reading at the Crescent for a number of years. Pat had also been a much respected and invaluable member of the governing body, both here at Crescent School and in the Princethorpe Foundation. Throughout her 15-year association with the school, Pat has been a volunteer, she has never received any payment for all of the hard work and expertise she has shared so freely. Indeed, she was always an invaluable sounding board and has played a key role in the staff recruitment over the years. Many, many thanks to Pat from everybody here, where she will be remembered very fondly.

School is Great



Sophie joined the Crescent in March and was one of a number of children who attended school during the lockdown as part of Crescent's Key Worker provision. We really loved her 'School is Great' nature work created in an outdoor learning lesson.

The School Promise Film



In June the school was delighted to premiere its new school film. Combining live action with the school's animated Crescent Promise characters the film uniquely brings the different elements of the school promise to life.

Produced by the Foundation Marketing Team and award-winning Affixius Films, the film was shot over the Lent Term. It aims to communicate how the Crescent School Promise fosters and develops the qualities of kindness and tolerance in a safe and caring environment where staff and families work together to deliver an inspiring, challenging and varied education.

Over four days the film crew worked with classes across the school showcasing the facilities and opportunities on offer at the Crescent. From Reception to the Science Lab, the Sports Field to IT and the Dining Hall to Assembly, Affixius set up their lights, screens, microphones and cameras to capture exactly what makes Crescent such a special place to learn. The children enjoyed taking part, following direction naturally, with their best smiles on show and the crew were able to wrap up ahead of schedule.

The new film was trailed on the school's social media with the question "Would you like to know what makes the Crescent so special?" before the big reveal on Friday 12 June. Headmaster, Joe Thackway explains, "Our new film celebrates the Crescent School Promise, our community's shared values, a simple set of guidelines, developed and shared by all pupils and staff, that helps our pupils become Good Friends, Good Learners and Good Citizens."

Huge thanks to Affixius Films, Dam Design Creative who created our Promise characters, and to all the pupils and staff who helped and took part in the film – you are all stars!

We think it sums the Crescent up perfectly!

You can see the film on the website:
www.crescentschool.co.uk

“Our new film celebrates the Crescent School Promise, our community's shared values, a simple set of guidelines.”

