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Autumn 1 2017

# **NEWSLETTER** Inspiration & Success



# YEAR 6 KINGSWOOD RESIDENTIAL

Year 6 had a fantastic few days at Kingswood Colomendy this half term. The action-packed residential trip included loads of exciting activities, including caving, fencing, rock-climbing and volleyball. The children's nerves were tested to the limit after taking a flight on the stomach-churning 3G swing and a walk along the dizzyingly high balance beam, before braving the infamous 'leap of faith'!

Their teamwork skills were developed through group challenges, such as building dens in the forest and constructing their own cars using only logs, barrels and rope. The ultimate test of faith in their teammates came when the children did the 'nightline'. Each group had to complete an obstacle course blindfolded using only a rope and the person in front of them as a guide!









"I enjoyed Kingswood a lot! I really liked the 3G swing because you got lifted up really high, then when you pulled the rope it swung you down. I think the trip made me better at teamwork because we did a lot of activities in a team, like building things and problem solving." **Lori McCarthy Dupuy 6KR** 

"Kingswood is a marvellous place! Everyone is very happy all the time, which made me feel happy, even when we had to get up quite early. The activities were very fun and creative. The trip made me feel self-confident because we had to do stuff for ourselves because we were away from home and our parents. It made me feel independent." **Sam Pryor 6NG** 

"Kingswood was amazing! We did a tonne of really exciting activities that tested our trust in our teammates. It made us feel self-confident because everyone would tell us how fantastic we had done just for giving things a go and and also resilient because we did stuff that was out of our comfort zone. I walked across a wire whilst blindfolded!" **Leila McMurray 6WG** 

"I had a great time at Kingswood. It made me feel creative because we had to problem-solve. The best thing was when we did nightline. We were blindfolded and we had to walk in a line holding on to the person in front of us whilst doing an obstacle course." **Montel Smith 6WG** 

"We got a lot of self-confidence from trying new things. I was scared of going underground but I tried the caving and I actually enjoyed it! The leap of faith was the best though. We had to climb up to this really small platform that was about two storeys high then jump off and try and touch this yellow bouy." **Neve Casey-Wright 6NG** 

"We definitely had to come out of our comfort zone for the activities. I am scared of heights but I still had a go on the 3G swing. I felt really happy with myself once I had done it! That was my favourite thing that we did." **Ciara Begley 6NG** 









"The best thing was when we went caving because I liked going through all the little gaps. At one point we turned off all our torches and it was completely pitch black, it was so cool! Then Dan rubbed a stone on a piece of quartz and you could see these orange flashes of light. We learnt why quartz is made to use watches. I think that the trip made me feel creative, because we had to build our own dens in the forest. It also made me feel resilient because once I had done the 3G swing it made me feel like I could take on anything!" **Amy Lincoln 6NG** 

"The best thing about Kingswood was the activities because they were really fun. I liked doing caving the best because there were lots of little slides and it was unlike anything I have ever done before. I felt happy because I was brave enough to do all of the activities." **Maryam Sarfraz 6KR** 

"The most fun part of the trip was the 3G swing. I was really nervous before I did it but afterwards I felt self-confident. The leap of faith and the balance beam were the hardest activities for me because I don't like heights, but I still did it which shows that I am resilient." **Hannah Lee 6KR** 

"I think Kingswood was probably the best trip ever. I loved EVERYTHING! The 3G swing and leap of faith were the best things we did I think. Even though it was really scary I felt secure because the Kingswood staff spent ages making sure our harnesses were on properly. I felt inspired by my friend Aaliyah because she showed me that I could be independent and I didn't need to be afraid of anything." **Riya Hunjan 6NG** 

"We had a fantastic time; the children were wonderful throughout and they really pushed themselves." **Miss Rowe** 

"What a wonderful weekend away! The children were all amazing! The resilience and team work they showed over the weekend was fantastic and made it such a lovely weekend for us all." **Mrs Walker** 

"Kingswood was amazing! Watching the children encourage and support each other to overcome their fears was so heart-warming! I particularly loved that the classes were mixed up, so many new friendships and memories were made across Year 6, what a fantastic weekend!" **Miss Davis** 





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www.OswaldRoad.co.uk Autumn 1 2017

# EUREKA!

Year 1 had a fantastic time on their trip to Eureka this half term. The children loved using their scientific curiosity to explore the museum. During the visit the Year 1s got to measure their height, see what a hospital looks like inside and even speak to a robot! They also took part in a gross lab workshop where they made lots of yucky things, like scabs, poo and even sick- yuck!

"Eureka was so much fun. My favourite part was the gross lab workshop because we got to make lots of gross things like sick!" **Gaia 1JJ** 

"My favourite part of Eureka was when we got to speak to the robot." **Woody 1JJ** 

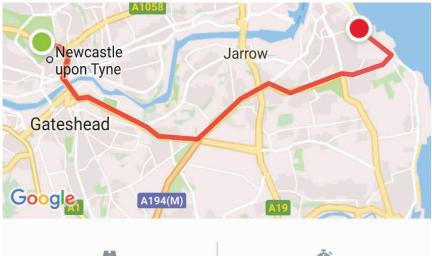
"Eureka was a fab trip for all of Year 1. All of the children behaved fabulously and interacted amazingly with the museum and workshop. They had lots of fun and we would love to go back!" **Miss Jones** 



# WELL DONE, MISS DAVIS!



A huge well done to our superstar runner Miss Davis, who took part in the Great North Run on Sunday 10th September. She managed 13.2 miles in an amazing 2 hours and 5 minutes, and raised a whopping £446.46 for the NSPCC!









# **MEET YOUR NEW HOUSE CAPTAINS!**

Meet your new house captains and vice captains! A special mention needs to go out to all those who applied (all 48 of you!!)...we had such a hard time picking our final 16 this year as the standard of the presentations truly was fantastic, so you should all be really proud of yourselves. What an amazing bunch you all are!

#### TAWNY

Captains– Darci-Mae Campbell and Haroon Elkhomsi Vice Captains– Bibi Crawford Johnson and Kier Aberdein-Evans

#### SNOWY

Captains– Lewis Heald and Mabel Hopkins Howarth Vice Captains– Elise Kennedy Green and Jonah Hearnshaw

#### BARN

Captains– James Price and Ammaarah Kholwadia Vice Captains– Charlie Pagan Campbell and Leila McMurray

#### SPOTTED

Captains– Mandeep Singh and Max Silvey Vice Captains– Yousuf Shoaib and Amelia Winstanley





### **CROSS COUNTRY**

On Tuesday 19th September 32 children from our school took part in the Central Cross Country event and they were all incredible, we have some real talent! Ms Singh & Miss Davis would like to say a huge well done to everyone involved and a big thank you to all the parents who came to support!

A special mention to Eve Campbell, who came 5th in the girls race, Owen Reekie, who came 2nd in the boys race, Jonah Hearnshaw (16th) and Stan Cooper (17th)!





### YEAR 2 TRIP TO CHORLTON EES

Year 2 marked the end of their 'Wild Thing' topic with a visit to Chorlton Ees. The children walked along Chorlton Ees looking for human and physical features, discussing them along the way. Whilst they were there they filled out a book about what they could see, touch and hear- including some animal dens and fallen down trees! The children also played in the woodland area and were thinking about how it would feel to be a wolf living out in the wild!



# DROP EVERYTHING AND READ!

On Thursday 28th September we had another one of our 'Drop Everything and Read' sessions. At the same time in the afternoon the whole school dropped everything they were doing to enjoy reading a book for 10 minutes. Some did independent reading, some enjoyed a book with friends and some (4LM!) even acted out a book as a class whilst the teacher read the story aloud!









Autumn 1 2017

# OUR BRILLIANT BUDDIES

Here at Oswald Road we are so lucky to have such a dedicated team of Year 5 and 6 buddies to help out our staff at lunchtime. We asked them what their important role entails...

"We get a grown up to come and help if a child falls over and hurts themselves. We teach the Nursery to tidy up at the end of playtime." **Damian** 

"If I see children playing on their own I will play with them." Latavia

"I help the LOs by scraping the plates, sweeping the floor and cleaning the tables in the dining hall." **Aleeza** 

"We play with the younger children." Florence

"If we see someone that is sad we will make them feel better." Charlie

"We make sure that nobody is left out." Elise

"We help the office staff by taking letters up to the classroom."  $\ensuremath{\textbf{Yousuf}}$ 

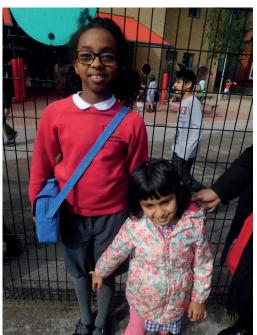
"If someone's grown up brings their lunchbox or coat to the office then we will take it to their classroom for them." **Erin** 

Thank you so much for all of your hard work in helping out our Lunchtime Organisers and Office Team!











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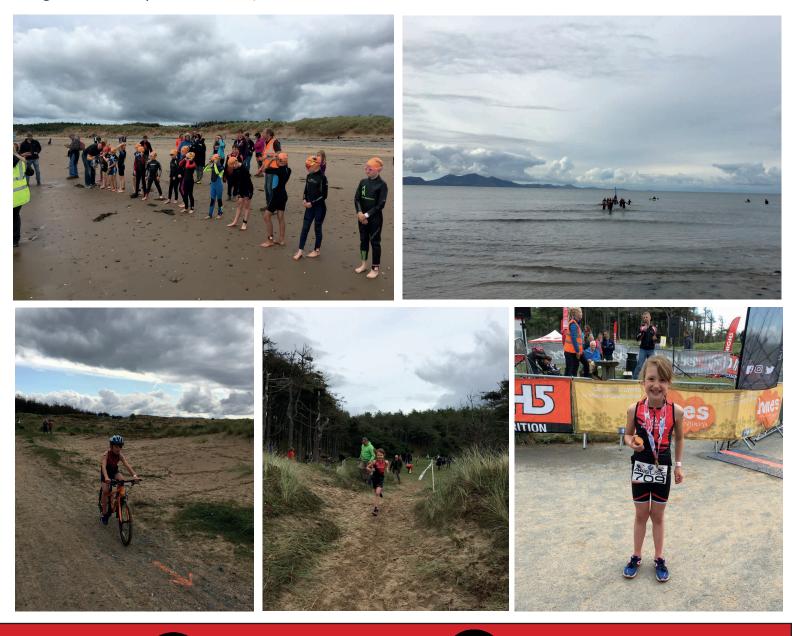
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# BABY HANNAH VISITS RECEPTION ————

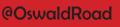
We had a very special visitor in Miss Roberts' class in Reception this half term! Five month old Hannah came in to say hello with her mum Sarah. The Reception children got to ask lots of questions about babies, including what they eat and what they need their grown ups to do to take care of them!

# **TERRIFIC TRIATHLETE!-**

A huge well done to Anelise from 4MQ for coming 11th in the Sandman Trialthon in Anglesey last month! To complete the course Anelise started with a 50 metre sea swim, followed by a 725m cycle through the forest and sandhills, finishing with a 500m forest and beach run. Her fantastic time meant she came 4th out of all the girls that took part. Well done, Anelise!







www.OswaldRoad.co.uk Autumn 1 2017

# ROALD DAHL DAY

A small group of children from Oswald Road visited Manchester Central Library last month to celebrate Roald Dahl Day. The children were selected for the special trip after they entered a competition to design the school's Charlie and the Chocolate Factory book bench.

The event at Central Library was put on to celebrate Roald Dahl's 101st birthday. During the trip the children got to visit a life-sized LEGO model of Charlie Bucket, as well as seeing their very own book bench on display alongside another Roald Dahl themed bench, which was designed by a fellow Manchester school.

The event also marked the official unveiling of the LEGO build of Charlie, which is composed of 8,960 bricks and took 53 hours to construct. The model is one of six Roald Dahl character brick builds across the country that have been created by Duncan Titmarsh – the UK's only certified LEGO professional builder.







# JUST SO STORIES

This half term Year 5 had a go at writing their own Rudyard Kipling 'Just So Stories'. They then practised performing them using eye contact, facial expressions, intonation and character voices ready to share them with the whole of Year 5! Well done everyone, they were brilliant!

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# **TRANSITION: PUPIL VOICE**

Now that the children have had a chance to settle into their new classes, we asked them about how they found the transition from one year group to another...

"I feel happy at Nursery. Teachers make me happy."

"I feel settled because I've made a few more friends."

"The work's harder, but it's still fun and we get a bigger playground and there's more people to see."

"At first I felt a bit nervous but now I feel fine."

"On transition day I felt scared but the activities helped me."

"When I'm feeling worried the teacher gives me a smile."

"The teacher found out what I liked and put pictures up to make me feel welcome."

"The first day I was feeling nervous but the second day I was feeling good."

"I know the teacher and routines now so I feel ok."

"I was sort of excited about the changes but nervous about the work and new teacher."

"The new door makes me feel special."

"My teacher is so kind and helpful. I tell the teacher if I have a problem, because she's told us not to keep it inside."

"It is scary being in Year 6 but I know I can do it. Miss Gibson has told us not to suffer in silence and that we should share our worries. If I have a problem I talk to Miss Gibson and other adults we trust in school."

"The transition time we had in summer and visits from our old teacher have helped us. We have a bubble box in our classroom to make us feel welcome."













# **TRANSITION: PUPIL VOICE**

"Miss Rowe helps us by telling us exactly what we are doing, she has been fab in transition."

"People are so friendly, which has helped in transition. Miss Gomez is so kind and welcomingshe has a great way of teaching."

"The teachers are so kind and they are not rushing us into the hard stuff."

"Our new teacher makes us feel welcome because she lets us make mistakes and moves on. I feel very settled and I love my new class."

"Our new teacher lets us sit next to people who will help us. I feel really settled, it's a new beginning."

"Mr Salisbury gives us extra time to talk to each other and choose our tables."

"You can tell that Mrs Salisbury wants to get to know us because he plays fun games to get to know us. I feel settled and happy. Mr Salisbury is funny."

"We had great transition days. I liked the whole day. Miss Davis is kind. If we don't understand she really helps us, she is great at explaining maths. I feel settled. I find the start of the year so exciting!"

"We do great maths in Year 5. Miss Davis makes us feel welcome because she smiles every day. She helps us, I have improved a lot!."

"The Reception children invited me to a 'tea party' in their new classroom, where three children cut me cake, poured me tea and then went to the mini beasts area and put spiders on my hand and a beetle on my head (with big massive smiles on their faces!) I knew they were feeling happy, settled and confident."- Mrs Howard









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### HARVEST ASSEMBLY

A huge thank you to everyone that donated to our harvest collection for the Chorlton & Didsbury Food Bank. Local ministers Captain Phil and Sarah Brewerton came in to school to collect the donations and deliver an assembly on the spirit of the harvest festival.

"As one of the management team of the Chorlton & Didsbury Foodbank, can we thank all who contributed to your Harvest Collection this year. All that was donated weighed in at a mighty 132.5Kg of produce. A big big thank you from the foodbank. That will go far to making a difference." **Captain Phil** 



# YEAR 3 TRIP TO JODRELL BANK-



Year 3 had a fantastic time on their trip to Jodrell Bank earlier this week, which they went on to mark the end of their 'Life on Mars' topic for this half term. During the trip the children got the opportunity to get up close to the world famous Lovell Telescope and learn about the planets and our universe in the Planet Pavilion exhibition.

"I liked when we made the air powered rocket. One fact I learned was that 63 moons could fit in Jupiter!" **Lucy 3KB** 

"I liked looking at the ginormous telescope! We had a go on the whispering dishes. You could hear people whispering even when they were 20 metres away! I learned that the North Star is actually made up of three stars." **Alex 3KB** 

"I liked going inside the dome and dressing up as a space man!" **Mohammed 3KB** 

"I liked when we went into the dome because it was so dark and my mum was there. I learned about different constellations, like the Big Dipper, which is made up of seven stars." **Rumessa 3KB** 

"My favourite part was going into the big dome. We went into night time mode so we could see all the stars. We learned about what the Ancient Greeks though the constellations were. There was one I thought looked like a karate guy!" **Nico 3KB** 

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# You said | We did

You wanted more notice of big school events such as Sports Day. We compiled a shared calendar of events for the whole year, which was sent out to parents at the start of term and can be accessed on the school website.

You wanted to have the option to donate money to the school fund to help cover the cost of trips, resources and activities. We have set up a dedicated school fund bank account for donations. We will be sending out the details on how to make a donation after half term. We have also added a line onto our trip/workshop letters to say that parents can pay more than the suggested donation if they wish to.

You like to know if your child has done something great in school! We now send 'good work texts' to parents if a child's teacher thinks they have done a fantastic piece of work or made an outstanding choice.

You wanted to know how the children were getting on over the weekend when they went on their Year 6 residential trip to Kingswood.

We uploaded loads of photos and videos throughout the weekend to the Year 6 Parents' Facebook Group so you could see how much fun they were all having!

You wanted more opportunities to come into school to see your child in their learning environment with their teacher. This year we will be holding termly open classroom events. The Autumn, Spring and Summer Showcases will be an opportunity for you to come into school with your child at the start of the day to look at their books and see what they have been learning that term.