



Michaelmas Term – 12th December 2018

### Father's Day Campout

On Friday, 8th June the elementary children camped out in the grounds with their dads (or 'borrowed' dads!) to celebrate Father's Day. There were lots of hot dogs, marshmallows, Nerf games and very little sleep, but much fun was had by all!

### Sports Day

We had an extra special, and very sunny, Sports Day earlier this year, combining it with a fun-filled afternoon of games, ice creams, glitter tattoos, a BBQ and dancing competitions, raising £916.41, and a truly fabulous profit (after costs) of £727.45 for the Atrium fund!



### School Photos

Antra Lumb took some beautiful photos of the elementary pupils and kindly donated all proceeds (£204) to the PA – thank you, Antra!

### New Parents Coffee Morning

The PA had a lovely turn out for the new parents coffee morning, and it was great to meet some new faces over a cup of coffee and a slice of cake.

### Spirit of Christmas Shop

This year the Spirit of Christmas shop took place on the 3rd and 4th December. The nursery and elementary children visited the shop and chose Christmas presents for all their family and friends, wrapped and labelled them, and have taken them home to put under the tree to be opened on Christmas Day. The children thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience, and it's great fun seeing what they've chosen for their loved ones on Christmas morning!

Thank you to those parents who donated gifts, cards and paper, and their time. The PA raised an astounding £577!!

### Nursery Christmas Concert and Party

On the 10th December the nursery children enjoyed their Christmas Party at school. The theme for dressing-up this year was The Nativity, and after their fun and games and party lunch they performed some Christmas carols to their families in the hall. As they left the concert they each chose their special Christmas present from Miss Jeannelle.



## Elementary Music & Drama Concert

The children performed beautifully at their end of year concert on 12th July, and a lovely post-concert party was held for the children and their parents at John and Roseanna's.



## Jacquie's Salon

St Helens had a pop-up hair salon for 2 weeks this term, with Jacqueline Von Steinkeller (Valentina and Matilda's mother) giving lots of the elementary (and a few nursery) children fantastic haircuts, and donating all proceeds (£120!) to the PA – thank you, Jacquie!

## Judo Grading

13 of the elementary children and 2 nursery children attended a Judo Grading at St Mary's School in Lamberhurst on the 5th December. They all fought very well and all earned stripes or moved up to new coloured belts.

## School Trip to Herstmonceux

In October, the elementary children when on a school trip to Herstmonceux Observatory Science Centre. The trip was partially funded by the PA, and the children loved learning about solar systems, seeing the telescopes and taking part in physics experiments.





## Remembrance Day

Both the nursery and elementary children put on a beautiful, moving performance of poems, readings, prayers and songs to commemorate this year's Armistice Day, and £202.42 was raised for the Royal British Legion through sales of poppies and donations at the service.



## Apple Day for Harvest

This year the elementary children visited Dandelion Time – a charitable project for children and young people traumatised by abuse, neglect or having early life attachment difficulties. They spent the morning creating clay animal baths, gardening and baking bread, and then sat outside in the beautiful surroundings for pumpkin soup.

In the afternoon, the children sold the apple crumbles they had made in an after-school 'crumble club' the day before (using apples they had collected from Keepers Nursery), and joined their teachers and parents outside for mulled apple juice, cakes, and toasting marshmallows in the firepit.



## Carol Singing for Age UK

All the elementary children will be visiting a day centre for the elderly in January. They will entertain them with some Christmas carols and other songs.

## Elementary Concert

This year the children will be performing their Christmas concert on Thursday, 13th December (tickets are available now), and there will be festive drinks and nibbles afterwards at John and Roseanna's.

### **Secret Santa**

The elementary children will once again be taking part in their annual Secret Santa. These presents are handed out by the children at their Christmas party to take home and open.

### **Upper Elementary School Trip**

In early January, the upper elementary will be going on a school trip to watch 'Box of Delights' at Wilton's Music Hall in London. The PA will be funding the cost of all travel expenses.

### **Elementary Christmas Lunch and Party**

After the fun that we had last year, the PA have decided to provide a Christmas lunch for the elementary children again, this time on the last day of term before their Christmas party in the afternoon.

### **Our Wonderful Teachers – by Miss Jeannelle**

Due to increased numbers of pupils, we are delighted to now welcome the lovely Mrs Sule ('Shoolay') Curling to the Nursery as a permanent member of staff. Mrs Curling trained at the Kent and Sussex Montessori Centre and worked for many years at Little Gems Montessori. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience. The strong team of fantastic Nursery Teachers continues to be supported by our highly experienced Montessori bank staff - Mrs Taylor, Mrs Goodwin and Mrs Lyons.

Mrs Percival is still on extended sick leave. I'm pleased to say the operation on her toe was successful. I'm also delighted to say that Mrs Coles is now able to join the Elementary full time. Together with Mrs Pinagapany and me, we make a strong and happy team working with the fabulous children in both classes. We've all had a great time - working hard, having fun and loving it!

This term we have also welcomed Elizabeth Hunter as our new School Secretary. She has already got to grips with the mammoth task of administration in the Office, updating and revising files and documents, and reorganising records, as well as the day to day communications with new and current parents and teachers. With her lovely smile and assured but gentle manner, she is a comfort and inspiration to us all.

This term we also welcome Ian Hunt, our new judo teacher. After very many years as a judo teacher, John Rose has decided to work as a classroom assistant. Ian Hunt, who is from the same team of judo coaches, is enjoying teaching our nursery and elementary children.