

THE GRIFFIN



Issue 151

8 December 2017

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Tolerance
Tolerance: the ability or willingness to tolerate the existence of opinions or
behaviour with which one dislikes or disagrees
Latin: tolerantia

‘The highest result of education is tolerance.’
(Helen Keller)

Floreat Birchfield!

Paul Reynolds

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CARD

Congratulations to Freddie Flavell whose Christmas Card was chosen as the School Christmas Card for 2017. All children from Years 3 to 8 designed a card; the winning card will be sent out to all parents, Pre-care parents, prospective parents, the Governors, Senior Schools, and local businesses.

PRE-PREP'S CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION

This week the children in Pre-Prep performed ‘Superstar’; a dazzling nativity play which created a lovely start to the festive season.

Each member of the school Celestial Choir is vying to dazzle music teacher Mr Marrz, hoping to be awarded a ‘superstar’ role in this year’s nativity. To her surprise Stella - who often gets things wrong but always tries her very best – is picked to play the part of the Star of Bethlehem because she understands the heart of the Christmas message.

As the special performance unfolded, the children shone a light on the **traditional nativity story** and pointed to Jesus being the true superstar of Christmas. With lots of upbeat songs and some fantastic solo and group singing, Pre-Prep gave their all and it was heart-warming to see the delight on their little faces.

Well done to all the pupils and staff for their hard work.

BIRCHFIELD CHALLENGE

This week saw the return of the Birchfield Challenge, with the closely contested written heats on Thursday, 7 December. Many congratulations to the following high-scoring students who have earned their place in the Live Final taking place on Monday, 11 December. One student was selected from each year group for each house, meaning each house team comprises six members.

| | Brelades | Brown | Watson |
|---------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Year 8 | Alexander Hartland | Tom Ross | Edward Pass |
| Year 7 | Major Evans | Harry Spear | Fynn Gautier |
| Year 6 | Gabriel Hartland | William Jones | Jacob Williams |
| Year 5 | Angelina Gatcha | Jacob Ahmed | Barnaby Rhodes |
| Year 4 | Edward Flynn | Sri Hari Krishna | Sebastian Parkhouse |
| Year 3 | Kitty Porter | Charlie Harding | Ellen Cambridge |

GRIFFIN AWARDS

Silver Griffins:

Brelades: Tristan Garratt

Gold Griffins:

Brown: Eme Day, Harry Spear

Watson: Oliver Colton, Sebastian Parkhouse

TOP HOUSE POINT EARNERS

Seniors: Freya Heath

Juniors: Phoebe Johnston

PIN BADGES

Robyn Duke

HEADMASTER'S SEND-UPS

Grace Seedhouse—History

Joshua Hulland—Fantastic Story Writing

Jonathan Gatcha—LE Homework

SCHOOL INSPECTION

We have now received the report from the ISI Inspection that took place in July: a copy can be found on the School's website. The inspectors focussed on the School's safeguarding arrangements and found the School to be fully compliant in all areas.

Prior to the inspection the Board had commissioned a consultant to conduct a security survey that was completed in the summer holidays, as a result of which the Board has undertaken further work to address the potential risk of unauthorised access to any of the school buildings. Installation of additional physical security measures will take place early in the New Year.

ENTERPRISE CLUB AWARDS

This term's Professional Behaviour Awards have gone to three deserving winners. Well done Ferrari Catalano (Year 8), Eme Day (Year 6) and Arabella Barnshaw (Year 5) for their mature approach and hard work this term.

CAROL SERVICE AND END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

Please remember to hand in the slip advising us on your pick-up arrangements for your sons and daughters.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Please remember to have your say about the uniform and boarding and return your completed questionnaires to the School Office by Monday evening.

ENTERPRISE CLUB SANTA SNOWFLAKE TRAIL

This term's Enterprisers have designed a Santa Snowflake Trail which involves following clues around the School and collecting tokens for a prize. Can you be the fastest team without running? Come and see them at Trail HQ in the hall tonight!

SPORTS RESULTS

Ist XI Football v Foremarke

LOST 5—4

Colts Football v Foremarke

WON 8—1

Ist XI Football v Tettenhall College

WON 4—2

Colts A Football v Tettenhall College

DREW 7—7

Colts B Football v Tettenhall College

WON 9—6

U13 Hockey v Tettenhall College

WON 9—0

SHREWSBURY SCHOOL TASTER DAY

Last Friday Years 6 and 7 were privileged to be invited to Shrewsbury School for a Sports Taster Day. Upon arrival our first activity was rowing and we were given three different tasks to perform; rowing against the clock on the rowing machines, riding in one of the million pound rowing boats and then getting in the water tank to have a go on the water.

We then went into the cricket centre where lots of activities had been set up for us, including diving, catching and throwing. Everyone's favourite was the baseball hitting with Harry recording the fastest hit at 49 miles per hour. In the bowling challenge Grace and Will tied with the fastest speed.

After a lunch of fish and chips we watched the senior pupils bat in the cricket nets. We then headed over to the Fives court and learnt a new game which we quickly picked up and soon managed some good rallies and high scores.

This was an extremely worthwhile experience for all the pupils.

ESTHER HURFORD AND GRACE SEEDHOUSE

Congratulations to Esther Hurford and Grace Seedhouse who have been selected for the U13 Shropshire Girls' Cricket Squad.

CAMERON SMITH AND LUKE BAHIA

Congratulations to Cameron Smith and Luke Bahia who have been selected for the ISFA Midlands Football Squad.

MISSING MATCH KIT

Please can you return any outstanding match kit to Mr Anderson by Monday, 11 December.

SENIOR MIXED HOUSE HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

| | | | |
|--------|-------------------|--------|-------------------|
| 2:15pm | Brelades v Brown | 2:51pm | Brelades v Brown |
| 2:27pm | Watson v Brelades | 3:03pm | Watson v Brelades |
| 2:39pm | Brown v Watson | 3:15pm | Brown v Watson |

| WHAT'S ON NEXT WEEK | | |
|----------------------------|-------------|---|
| Date | Time | Event |
| Monday | | Thought for the week: Christmas |
| | | No Clubs and Activities all week |
| | 15:00 | Live final Birchfield Challenge - Hall - <i>Parents welcome</i> |
| Tuesday | 12:45 | Rec, Year 1 trip to Theatre Severn to see 'Snow White' |
| Wednesday | 14:15 | Mixed Senior House Hockey Competition at Aldersley |
| Thursday | 13:00 | Pre-Prep Christmas Party |
| | 15:15 | Term Ends for Reception & Year 1. Year 2 4.45pm |
| | 18:30 | Christmas Feast |
| Friday | 11.00 | Christmas Carol Service at St Mary's Church |
| | 12.30 | Term Ends |

SYMPHONY HALL—SUNDAY, 8 DECEMBER

Please note the revised times for the concert at the Symphony Hall this Sunday.

| | |
|---------|---------------------------|
| 12:30pm | Meet at the Symphony Hall |
| 2:30pm | Concert |
| 4:30pm | Finish |

PREP ROOM—THURSDAY, 14 DECEMBER

Please note that there will be no Prep Room on Thursday, 14 December, as the children and staff will need to leave school to change for the Christmas Feast and be back in school for drinks at 6:15pm.

SAFETY HEADGEAR IN RUGBY

As always, safety is paramount in every area of sport at Birchfield. Whilst the children are correctly coached, particularly in regard to tackling and scrummaging, the wearing of headgear for rugby is down to individual choice, and we happily support those that choose to wear scrum hats alongside the compulsory gum shield that all children must wear for training and fixtures.

LIBRARY BOOKS

Would pupils please return any overdue library books they have out on loan before the end of term. Books may then be borrowed for the period of the Christmas holidays but any outstanding loans need to be cleared first.

Letters sent out this week:

Boarding Questionnaire: all pupils