



'May my actions be worthy of St Hilda, not the result of weak desire; strive to improve, give thanks to those who guide me, Fail but then determine to succeed and to inspire.'

Trade with the Gifts, St Hilda's School Song

Dear Parents,

Today is St Hilda's Day and as always we have marked the occasion by singing our School Song, Trade with the Gifts, which was composed a few years ago by Quentin Thomas from Oundle and written by Mrs Godlee. It sums up our aim to strive to do our best, despite the disappointments that sometimes come our way. The girls always enjoy singing this, as they do at our Leavers' Service in July.

We have had a busy two weeks since our last newsletter, with several visitors coming in to enhance our curriculum. Highlights this week included Form II dressing as Victorian children as part of their day finding out about Florence Nightingale, sampling food, practising their letters and a surprise visit from Her Majesty Queen Victoria. On Wednesday, Form V and Form VI had a fantastic day with artist and inventor Darcy Turner. The girls saw some of Darcy's amazing inventions and then had the chance to use them to create their own sculptures. Continuing with curriculum work on figures in action, the girls used newspaper to create strong rolled sticks to create life size figures in motion. There were lots of opportunities to solve problems, think creatively and work as a team. The end results were amazing and Darcy said he could not believe how well the girls had worked together and how much work they had created.



This morning we had a super assembly led by our Reception girls who spoke and sang with such confidence. It was also lovely to welcome Nursery to our whole school assembly for the first time. Afterwards, Nursery had a great time enjoying some fun activities in aid of Children in Need, raising £23. Well done girls!



Another success this week has been the start of our Forest School activities, with Form II, III and IV taking part in some really exciting challenges on the field and around the grounds, exploring, creating and collecting various materials.

Rotary Shoeboxes

A huge thank you to everyone who helped fill shoeboxes for the Rotary Club this year. Altogether the girls filled 111 boxes which will go to needy children in other parts of the world. For them, this could well be their only Christmas present.

Jazz shoes

Please may I remind all parents from Form III upwards that girls should wear jazz shoes for drama. This is on the Stevenson's uniform list. Shoes do not have to be purchased from Stevenson's and are easily available online.

Bazaar

I am very much looking forward to the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday week. A huge amount of work has been going into this and I am so grateful to everyone who has put in such a lot of their time. If anyone would like to sing with the parents' choir group in the Dining Room during the event, please let my wife, Naomi Sayers, know.

Wellies

It has been good to see the girls utilising our new welly store and the field during break times and making use of the additional space. The artificial grass has really come into its own, as has the canopy area with the very attractive planters funded by FOSH. A big thank you to everyone. Please ensure that if your daughter does not have her wellies yet, to send some in.

E Safety

Thank you to everyone who came to the eSafety evening on Tuesday. Sadly there was a major accident on the M1 which reduced all local traffic to a standstill and no doubt prevented some from attending. I am most grateful to Teresa Hughes who gave a frank and at times chilling account of online issues that we face today. I would recommend that all of you read the accompanying attachment which outlines the talk and includes useful information regarding filters, apps and other precautions that all parents should take. The girls in Form V and VI, and the staff had similarly informative and appropriate material presented to them.

The next newsletter will be published on Friday, 1st December. Wishing you all a good weekend.

With best wishes

Mr Sayers
Headmaster

