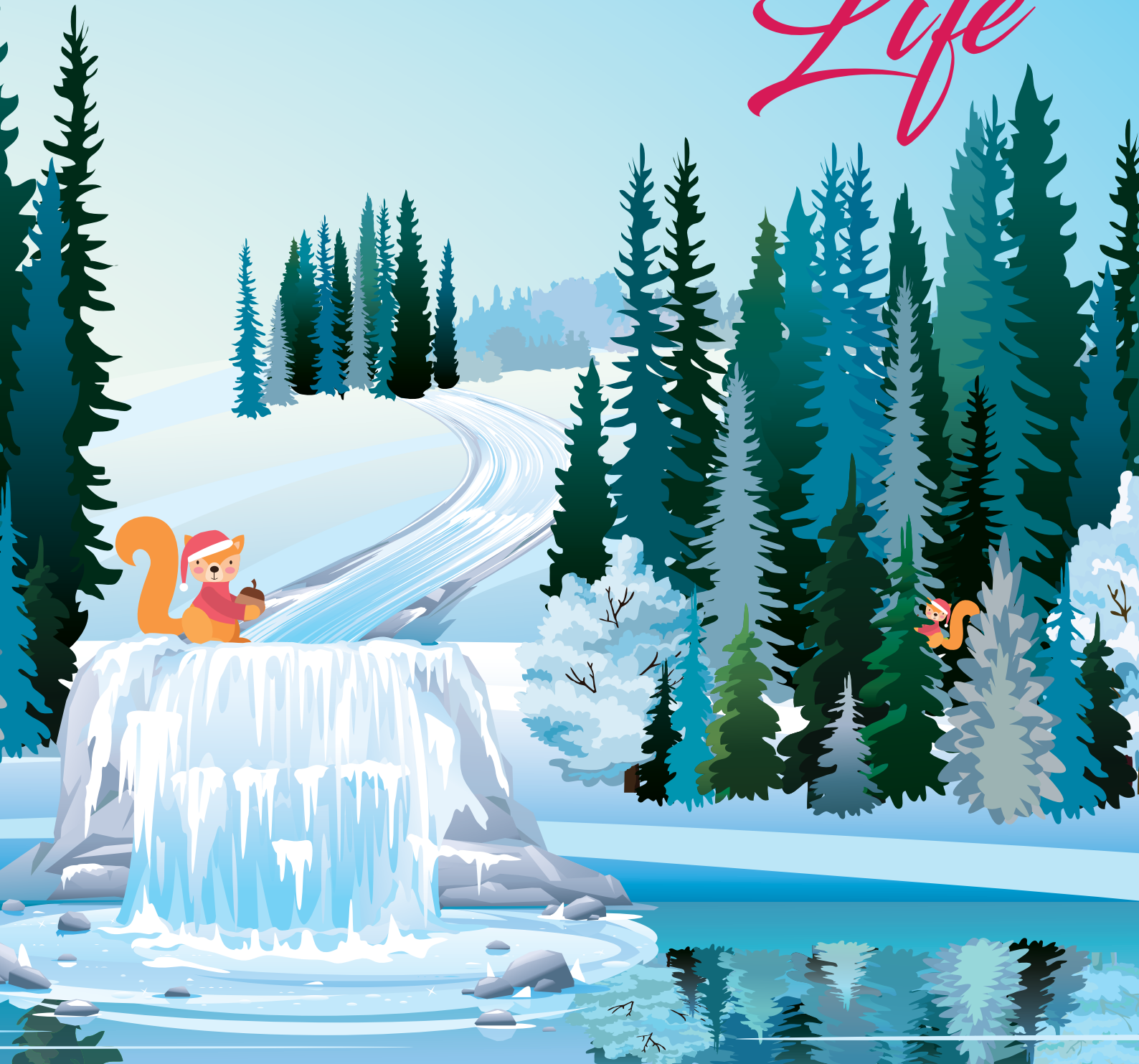


Warwick Prep

WINTER 2023

Life



What's inside

TOY STORY

Woody, Barbie and The Hulk made an appearance during Year 1's Toy Day!

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EXPLOSIVE SCIENCE!

Year 4 had a whole lava fun learning about volcanoes.

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SQUIRELS IN THE COMMUNITY

Read all about our community events, partnering with Kissing it Better.

PAGE 15



Welcome from the Head

A very warm welcome to the Autumn Term edition of Warwick Prep Life. Our brilliant Year 6 Editors have been hard at work interviewing, reviewing and capturing the essence of 'Squirrel Spirit' in the pages before you, showcasing life both inside and outside the classroom.

Warwick Prep Life provides a whistle-stop tour of all that has been enjoyed throughout this term. Curriculum days have seen monsters, teddy bears, animals on safari, and Ancient Egyptians roaming the corridors of school and curriculum enrichment further afield has included visits to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford, Gurdwara Sahib in Leamington and the Space Centre in Leicester.

Our musicians have been out and about as part of our 'Squirrels in the Community' programme, performing for residents of local care homes over afternoon tea, and gave a mini concert as part of the Christmas Tree Festival in St Mary's Church. The Winter Concert was sublime, and we are delighted a number of girls have been awarded places in the National Youth Choir and Orchestras.

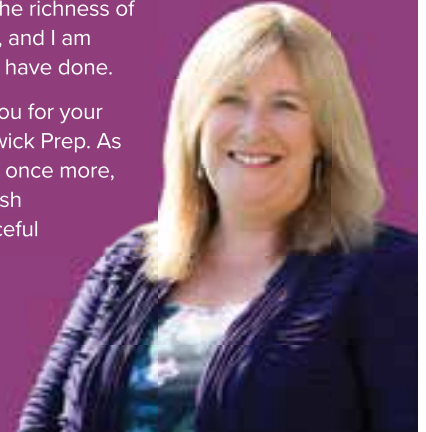
Our sports teams have been competing across the country and special mention must be made of our U11 hockey team who reached the National Finals earlier in the term. It is also a joy to read of the tremendous achievements of our children in their 'out of school' sports – more on page 13.

Our pupil voice committees have been hard at work, thousands of pounds have been raised for charity and our Wellbeing Ambassadors continue to have a significant impact on school life. This 'Squirrel Spirit' gives our children the inner confidence to be and do their very best, resulting in the glory of our twelve nativities and carol services performed over the last few weeks.

None of this is possible without my team of incredible staff. As always during the term, they have worked tirelessly to ensure the richness of experiences for our children, and I am indebted to them for all they have done.

All that remains is to thank you for your tremendous support of Warwick Prep. As the corridors and halls echo, once more, with the sound of carols, I wish you and your families a peaceful Christmas and a happy and healthy 2024.

Mrs Hellen Dodsworth



Welcome from the Principal

Earlier this term, we celebrated our annual Service of Thanksgiving, filling St Mary's Church with representatives from across our schools and the wider Foundation family. This is the only time in the year which brings together representatives from all aspects of our charity's work and reach, including our vital community partners - trustees from the town charities which support our endeavours and representatives from the town's schools with whom we have special relationships.

There is much talk of educational charities currently, and it is useful to remind ourselves that we exist solely because we are a charity with a very particular object: in summary, to operate schools in and around Warwick. As with every charity, we operate in line with the laws of the land and are accountable to the charity commission, and in our case, the Department for Education too via the Independent Schools Inspectorate for the quality of education each school provides. We are proud that each of our schools provides a wonderful environment for our pupils, and of the commitment of the senior teams in the schools to enhance opportunities for all, thereby living out our charity's purpose: to transform lives through the power of education.

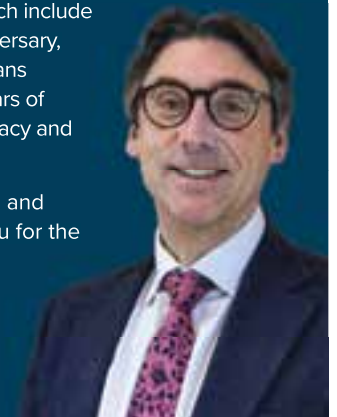
Close to home, that shared mission of transformation has unlocked opportunities across our schools. We see this in the lived experience of our pupils and the everyday opportunities they have to work together. New ways to do this emerge both organically and strategically, whether that is through societies where pupils share and explore interests, new clubs to develop skills and talents, new educational pathways, or structured opportunities to work together. Three particularly important

developments this term have been the Link Day for Year 5 and Year 6 across Warwick Prep and Warwick Junior School, the Global Universities programme and the arrival of Stuart Thompson as the Foundation Executive Music Lead. All of these, and more, mean that by being part of a larger whole, everybody benefits. That is also a useful life lesson, too.

This also means that there is more to share for everyone in our wider community too. The very special relationship we have with the town of Warwick is one we are gradually extending to Leamington, working with schools to support in areas most impactful for them, which beyond educational partnerships directly for pupils and staff, is now embracing support for parents too, for example through the pastoral forum on online safety. This increasing connectivity makes our charity more relevant to more people. This feels especially important as we head into 2024. The combination of our five schools' anniversaries - which include Warwick celebrating its 1110 year anniversary, King's High 145 and Kingsley 140 - means that we collectively celebrate 1552 years of education. That is an extraordinary legacy and one on which we are proud to build.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year and would like to thank you for the individual and collective support you bring to our schools and, therefore our charity.

Mr Richard Nicholson



Meet the Editors

Introducing our Autumn Term team of Warwick Prep Life Editors; Romilly, Pippa, Isla, Bea, Susannah, Sophia and Amalia, all in 6CM. The girls have been working hard conducting interviews, writing articles, and helping to design our winter-themed front cover. Let's find out what they enjoyed most about the role of Editor.

“I really enjoyed being an Editor from the very first meeting we had! The best experience was interviewing Miss Fulker.”

Romilly

“Being an Editor was an amazing experience. I really enjoyed thinking up questions and interviewing.”

Pippa

“I loved being an Editor because I have been able to do something I really enjoy while working with my friends.”

Isla

“I had such fun organising and conducting the interviews and brainstorming the cover design.”

Bea



“It was fun interviewing Madame Ousset and learning more about her. I also liked writing with Amalia. I hope you have fun reading Warwick Prep Life!”

Susannah

“I thoroughly enjoyed being an Editor. It was an amazing experience, interviewing and writing with my friends.”

Sophia

“I loved being an Editor because I got to collaborate with my friends on the articles.”

Amalia

From little acorns, Mighty oak trees grow

At the start of the Autumn Term, the Nutkins children started their journey at Warwick Prep by attending our Thursday morning 'stay and play' session in The Squirrels Nursery. It has been wonderful to watch the children form friendships and grow in confidence as the term has progressed.

The children have been exploring the Nursery garden, making the most of the autumnal sunshine, and in the wet room, have enjoyed painting, crafting and modelling with playdough.

They've joined in with our infamous 'hello' and 'goodbye' songs and learned some new songs and actions during music sessions with Miss Hollocks, our Early Years music teacher.

The children have made Christmas calendars, tree decorations and iced biscuits, finishing the term having made many new friends.



Crafting a pumpkin



Fishing for fun!



Zooming around the Nursery garden



Role play in the hairdressers



Christmas decoration by Ellahi



Christmas decoration by Arthur



Tree calendar by Ruby



Creating Christmas decorations



Developing fine motor skills with playdoh

THE SQUIRRELS NURSERY NEWS

It grew, and it grew and grew...!

During the Autumn Term, The Squirrels Nursery children have been developing their creativity through art. Painting offers them a world of opportunities for experimentation and expression. They love to make their mark and use all their fingers to explore paint. Colourful autumn pictures were created with leaves and stampers, and beautiful poppies were painted with corks and paintbrushes.

The children celebrated Harvest with a lovely retelling of the story of 'The Enormous Turnip'. It took lots of teamwork and perseverance for all the Nursery children, a farmer and his wife, a dog, and a cat and finally a little mouse to pull up the enormous turnip right out of the ground. POP!

There have been many fun activities for the children to sort toys and learn about shapes. Our Nursery children naturally love to sort; practising their mathematical and language skills. Sorting objects in different ways helps children to gain an understanding of similarities and differences.

Should a monster come to The Squirrels Nursery? The children had a difficult decision to make this term. Although they were a bit concerned he might bite or smell, after much discussion and debate they decided to let a monster come to Nursery so that he could make some friends and enjoy the toys!



Alex in NHT enjoying painting in the wet room



Remembrance poppy painting by Delilah in NHT



Harvest scarecrow by Hannah in NPB



NWR deciding if a monster should visit Nursery!



George R and Victoria, in NHT, sorting animals



Oisín in NPB carrying The Enormous Turnip!



'My First Day' painting by Willow in NWR



Freddie and Navdeep, in NPB, learning about shapes

RECEPTION NEWS

A Super Start!

Reception have had a busy first term at Warwick Prep! All the children looked so smart in their new uniform. We began the term settling into our new classes and meeting new friends. The children had great fun painting 'First Day at School' pictures of themselves.

In October, the children welcomed their families into school for a special Grandparents' Afternoon. The children sang a selection of songs, including a special version of 'The Music Man' before proudly showing their relatives around their classrooms. For many children, this was their first time performing at Warwick Prep so we are incredibly proud of them.

In November, we enjoyed learning all about the Hindu Festival of Light, Diwali. Children who celebrated with their families shared their experiences. We made beautiful diya lamps using air-dry clay, metallic paint and jewels and learned the story of Rama and Sita.

Almost as soon as we had finished celebrating Diwali, we began rehearsing for our Christmas Nativity plays. This year, we told the story through the eyes of Maurice the mule in our production of 'Away in a Manger.' The teachers were very impressed with their classes who performed so confidently after only a term in school. Well done, on a super start to Reception!



RSJ performing their Christmas Nativity



RHE singing in their Nativity



Reception performing at Grandparents' Afternoon



First Day painting by Ava in RHE



First Day painting by Aria in RSJ



Reception diya lamps



First Day painting by Lyra in RCM



First Day painting by Saxon in REB

YEAR 1 NEWS

The Joy of Toys

The Autumn Term has flown by! The children have settled well into the routines of Year 1 and are already using their Skills for Life of resilience, empathy and independence. We have also started to 'Think Big' and develop our reasoning skills. We can agree, build upon or challenge each other's opinions which is helping us to share our ideas and listen carefully to our peers too. We have loved using the Imagination Station to share different ways of recording and we have even begun to make simple mind maps to link topics or objects together.



In Science, we have been learning all about ourselves and our senses and have loved practical investigations of touch, smell, taste and hearing. It was interesting to identify different sounds and much fun was had with a feathery tickle test! Which do you prefer; sour or sweet? It was a challenge to decide!

A highlight of the term was our Toy Day. We spent the day finding out about toys from the past and made comparisons to toys of today. There were some amazing costumes and careful observations as we sorted old and new toys. Everybody enjoyed creating a split pin moving bear, after hearing all about how teddies got their name.

The term wrapped up in a flourish of Christmas glory! The children were just a joy to watch as they performed in 'The Inn-Spectors'. Songs could be heard in every class as we all revelled in the wonderful excitement of the performances. A lovely way to end a wonderful term. Just fabulous. Well done Year 1!



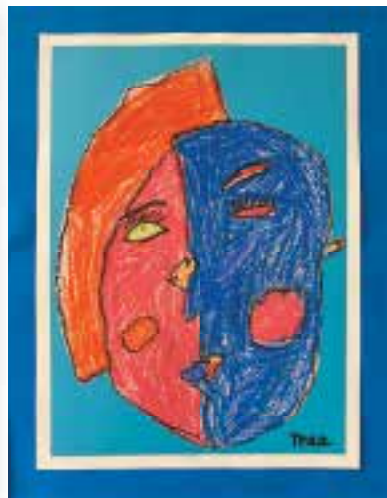
Anika and Arabella, in 1JB, tickle testing!



Pupils from 1JF on Toy Day



Modigliani inspired self-portrait by Henry in 1HC



Picasso inspired self-portrait by Thea in 1KD



Pupils from 1KD on Toy Day



Year 1 performing The Inn-Spectors



Pupils from 1HC on Toy Day

Be Inspired!

The Year 2 children have settled into their new classrooms and routines very well. They are aiming to be more independent, responsible and set a good example for the younger children in Pre-Prep. As an early 'Skills for Life' homework, the children have also been practising their empathy, and we were treated to a variety of lovely examples shared on Seesaw and/or in Planners.



A huge focus for us has been encouraging and promoting Critical Thinking. We have introduced a fortnightly Year 2 Inspirational Person. During the first week, the children looked at a picture of the Inspirational Person and posed questions about who they were and what they would like to know about them. In the second week, we made use of AI and used ChatGPT to learn the answers to the children's questions. The children also have a 'Thunk' up in the classroom each week and we have explored a wide variety of questions designed to make you think and explain your reasoning. We are also aiming to use Critical Thinking in as many lessons as possible.

In our English lessons, we have shared and taken inspiration from Kit Wright's poem 'The Magic Box', a fabulous meerkat Literacy Shed Unit called 'Catch-It!' and 'The Ugly Five' by Julia Donaldson. The children completed a research homework that they used to create fact files about Kenyan animals and they have written their own fable in the style of Aesop. In Maths, we have focused on understanding the number system, number facts, place value, addition and subtraction.

In Geography, we found out about the continent of Africa and have then zoomed in to focus on exploring Kenya. We really enjoyed 'Africa Day' at the end of the first half term, when the children undertook a music/dance session, a safari scavenger hunt, an independent art activity in sketchbooks and worked to contribute to the two pieces of collaborative art that are on display in the Open Area. Thank you everyone for joining in so well!

Since half-term, our topic has shifted to 'Flying Adventures' where we are learning all about the history of flight. In Science, we have investigated 'Keeping Healthy' and 'Forces'. Hinduism and Christmas have been our RE themes. In PSHEE, we have discussed 'Being Me in Our World' and 'Celebrating Difference', in addition to completing our unit on Protective Behaviours. Our Art lessons have linked to our Africa theme and, more recently, we have been excited to prepare our classrooms for Christmas celebrations!



Freya, Isla and Xuanzeng, in 2WS, working collaboratively on Africa Day



Kenyan sunset by Hamish in 2CS



Children from 2AD learning African dancing



African elephant by Sadhana in 2AD



Alexander, Charlie and Henry, in 2JW, on a safari scavenger hunt



Florence and Elliot, in 2CS, drawing African animal fur patterns

YEAR 3 NEWS

Nile Adventures

We started our life in the Prep department with an exciting bonding day to Umberslade Adventure, where the girls challenged themselves with learning new skills and developing resilience. Despite the very heavy rain, the children combatted tricky obstacles, completed an orienteering course, learnt archery skills and flew through the forest on a 100 metre zip wire!

Our History Day gave us the opportunity to immerse ourselves in all things Egyptian. The girls made themselves into pharaohs, mummified their dolls and created some beautiful jewellery. Our Classics teacher, Mrs Lewis, also gave an interesting insight into hieroglyphs and we welcomed West End in Schools for an immersive drama workshop. During the first half of the term, the girls had great fun choosing an Ancient Egyptian activity for their weekend homework. The classrooms have been full of homemade Egyptian pyramids, recipe books and board games, to name but a few!

Year 3 traditionally start the Warwick Prep Christmas celebrations with a Christingle service, and we loved that our parents came to watch. To fully understand about Christingle, we made our own Christingle oranges and visited St Nicholas' Church where Reverend Hale welcomed us to learn more about the services at Christmas and all the associated traditions for Christians.

We've had a flying start to Year 3. Well done, girls!



3LW on Ancient Egyptian Day



3VS on Ancient Egyptian Day



Mixed media dragon fruit by Winnie in 3LW



Mixed media lime by Aeryn in 3VS



Eleanor and Erin, in 3VS, creating Egyptian necklaces



Lucy in 3LW zipping down the zip line at Umberslade Adventure



Model pyramid by Annabelle in 3LW



Year 3 Christingle assembly

YEAR 4 NEWS

Volcanoes Rock!

It has been an explosive term in Year 4! Volcanoes galore were made by the pupils and brought into school to explode in the playground. The whiff of vinegar and bicarbonate of soda was in the air in the classroom for quite some time! This was part of a very popular Geography topic about volcanoes and really seemed to capture everyone's imagination.

In History, a visit to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford helped to consolidate learning from the classroom, as pupils were given a tour of the museum and were able to handle real Greek artefacts which was very exciting. In November, Ancient Greek Day included a drama workshop from West End in Schools where the girls were taken back to Ancient times. They role played being in the agora, created Greek god freeze-frames and pretended to be fierce Spartan warriors! The children also enjoyed an informative language workshop from our Classics teacher, Mrs Lewis. Seeing everyone learning something new and enjoying drama and languages is always lovely.

As part of their Harvest assembly, the Year 4 children welcomed Andy Bower from Warwick District Foodbank and were delighted with the quantity of food donated this year; four full shopping trolleys went to the foodbank which was super. The pupils' assembly brought home the meaning of Harvest to the friends and families watching, and their singing of 'Harvest Moon' was truly joyful.

The Autumn Term is always busy, and the Year 4 pupils have immersed themselves in their Performing Arts afternoons on Thursdays with great enthusiasm. With excellent LAMDA results from last term, they have been learning their poems ready for their exams in February.



Lily in 4HF creating a volcanic eruption!



Hattie in 4MC with her model volcano



Dylan in 4LG with her model volcano



Year 4 exploring the Ashmolean Museum



4HF dressed up for Ancient Greek Day



Year 4 Harvest assembly



4LG on Ancient Greek Day

YEAR 5 NEWS

Lest We Forget

We have been thrilled with the transition made by the girls from Middle School into Upper School. Our pupils have enjoyed opportunities for further responsibility around school including Play Leaders and Librarians.

A key point in the term was delivering a respectful and most poignant service of Remembrance in the Warwick School Chapel. Our English unit, based upon Michael Morpurgo's novel 'War Horse', helped the girls to better understand the impact and tragedies of The Great War. The girls also took time to analyse poetry from World War One. When putting their thoughts about the plight experienced by the soldiers from these poems into words, the girls used the terms 'shocking', 'helpless' and 'brave'.

In RE, the girls have been learning about the Sikh religion. We experienced the privilege of visiting Gurdwara Sahib, Leamington and Warwick. The girls impressed us with their demonstration of respect, and sense of enquiry. They especially enjoyed the opportunity to view the Guru Granth Sahib and the bedroom (the Sach Khand) where this sacred book rests when not in use. The girls were also able to take a tour around the langar, which is the community kitchen of a gurdwara. Meals are served to all free of charge, regardless of religion, caste, gender, economic status, or ethnicity.

Other highlights for the girls included: visiting the Pudsey Room to support Children in Need; receiving and paying compliments on Wellbeing Wednesday during Anti-Bullying Week and bolstering scores for the school on TT Rock Stars during Maths Week.

The final highlights of our term included the fabulous Winter Concert; our Carol Service at St Mary's Church; and of course, Christmas lunch and the Upper School party! A fantastic term indeed!



Visiting Gurdwara Sahib



Viewing the Guru Granth Sahib holy book



Pupils from 5KC playing the Indonesian bonang



5AM learning traditional Indonesian music during a Gamelan workshop



Kristy Paterson inspired peel-off paint flowers by Seren in 5AM



Kristy Paterson inspired peel-off paint flowers by Loretta in 5KC



Kristy Paterson inspired peel-off paint flowers by Jessie in 5AM

YEAR 6 NEWS

Aiming for the Stars

Year 6 girls were delighted to start their final year at Warwick Prep, enjoying the responsibilities that being at the top of the school brings. The first few weeks were spent working very hard to prepare for the entrance exams, and we have been delighted and very proud of the girls with the offers and scholarships they have received.

In November, we enjoyed a link afternoon with the boys from Warwick Junior School. Working in mixed groups, the children had to collaborate to design and create a themed outfit made from newspaper, which was then modelled on the 'catwalk' at the end of the afternoon. Three of the teams received prizes for their fabulous creativity.

At the start of December, we were over the moon to be able to visit the Space Centre in Leicester. The girls had a fabulous time learning about our place in the universe and the other celestial bodies that make up our Solar System. They also got to watch a short film in the planetarium about what it takes to be an astronaut. Continuing with the space theme, the girls completed some out of this world, extra-terrestrial, Project Fortnights. They ranged from, 'Space suits through the years', 'Black holes', 'Inspirational women in space' and 'Animals that have travelled into space'. Totally intergalactic!

The House Captains have been busy helping Mrs Charl and Mrs Crafts with charity work and have made themselves and the school proud with their efforts for Children in Need. Keeping with the theme of 'helping others', the Wellbeing Ambassadors provided the whole school with a wonderful Wellbeing Wednesday – a day full of activities to remind us of the importance of looking after ourselves and each other.



Year 6 girls and boys strutting their stuff on the catwalk



Year 6 and their catwalk creations!



Sophia, Imogen and Isla, in 6CM, holding an ancient Chinese artefact at Compton Verney

Shang-tastic!

By Isla, Sophia and Bea



In October, Year 6 went on a trip to Compton Verney to learn about the Shang Dynasty. After a brisk 15-minute coach drive, we arrived and split into two groups. While Group 2 were handling 3000-year-old artefacts, everyone else went upstairs to the Chinese gallery.

We sketched and discovered facts about the ritual vessels: dou, pronounced do; gu; ding; and you, pronounced yo. All of us found out interesting facts: did you know the gu disappeared in later dynasties and that bronze is made of copper and tin?



Shan in 6JJ creating a clay Shang vessel

Afterwards, we swapped groups and headed downstairs into the classroom. As the artefacts were so old, we had to wear gloves as to not damage them. It felt amazing handling these – this was an opportunity that very few people get to do. Considering how old they were, we were surprised by the fantastic condition they were in (although they were quite rusted!).

Next, we went outside for our lunch break and play. With full stomachs, we went inside for our final activity: making our own ritual vessels out of air-dry clay. We had a tutorial and tools to help us create our very own dings! It was such a fun experience, even though it was much harder than we thought! When we had finished, we thanked our wonderful instructors for leading us through the day. Finally, our incredible trip was over.

Sports Round-up

We have had a jam-packed term of Sport and Physical Education, from gymnastics and dance to football and hockey. The abundance of fixtures and co-curricular activities are certainly keeping our children busy here at Prep.

In the Prep department, over 200 girls have played in hockey fixtures, achieving our best results yet! The U8 teams have shown great skill and determination in learning the sport and are beginning to get a brilliant understanding of the game. The U9 and U10 teams have had a superb season so far; the A teams have had straight wins in both age groups, but more importantly, it is lovely to see such tenacious hockey being played by all the girls and such large numbers attending Hockey Club. A very special mention goes to our U11A team, who have had the most successful season of hockey that Warwick Prep has had, winning not only the local Bromsgrove tournament but also the IAPS Regional round. They then went out to Nationals, where they came 4th, a truly incredible feat to be in the UK's top four hockey Prep schools.



U11 hockey team at IAPS National Finals

Our swimmers have enjoyed collaborating with Warwick Junior School for swimming competitions this term. Together, they have faced Blue Coat School, Bromsgrove School and Balsall Common Primary School. We have seen some intense races, team spirit from all and an incredible amount of support for each other.

Well done to our gymnasts who competed in the Independent Schools Gymnastics Association (ISGA) two-piece gymnastics competition. Our pupils joined the King's High gymnastics team and competed on floor and vault. Highlights included Chloe, in Year 4, finishing 3rd overall and the Year 4 team finishing 5th. Amelie, in Year 5, finished joint 11th on vault, Annabel, in Year 5, finished 12th on floor and Imogen, in Year 6, finished 5th on floor. The girls competed throughout the day and worked really hard. They are now working towards the 4 and 5-piece competitions in the Spring Term.



ISGA Gymnastics

The footballers have kicked the season off with a bang, winning some of their games in double figures. They have hosted various local teams to play and are yet to lose one of these matches. Most impressively, the U11A team took to the field at the boys' U11 IAPS Regionals; not only did they hold their own as the only all-girls team, but they demonstrated great skill and strength. We are so proud of the girls.



Cross country at RGS The Grange

At the start of the year, everyone in the Prep department was given the opportunity to participate in the Aquathlon, a swim into a run. This highlighted the amazing community of children we have here at Warwick Prep. The kindness and support the girls showed each other and their resilience was awe-inspiring. We have also participated in two cross country fixtures at The Manor Prep and RGS The Grange, where two of our year groups came out on top out of over 10 schools and 50 runners in each race.



Swimming section of the Prep Aquathlon

In addition to the sports we do at school, there are many of our children who compete in various sports and activities in their own time. We have National Tae Kwon Do champions, county tennis players, experienced equestrians, and our very own Foundation Ski Team. The girls on the Ski Team have had a brilliant season; they won their regional competition and became Category 1 (U12) girls National Schools Champions.

As always, our number one goal here is for the children to love and enjoy their sport, and it has been a term full of successes, fun and lots of laughter, so as a department, we are incredibly happy and very proud.



Running section of the Prep Aquathlon

Musical Matters

Kicking off the new academic year with an explosion of cultural beats, Year 5 pupils delved into the enchanting world of Gamelan music, led by the dynamic Mike Simpson from Inspire Works. Authentic traditional instruments echoed through the Music School, as the children immersed themselves in the vibrant sounds of Indonesia. From playing Gamelan to unravelling the secrets of its structure, this workshop was a rhythmic journey that transported the classes to a distant musical landscape.



Year 5 Gamelan workshop

The musical journey continued with Year 5 and Year 6 attending the Foundation Service at the end of September. Grace, our instrumental leader, performed a wonderful oboe solo, showcasing the remarkable talent within our school community. The Senior Choir enchanted the audience at the Legal Service for the High Sheriff. In a heart-warming twist, the choir's rendition of 'Let Love Shine Through' celebrating the diversity that makes our world harmonious, resonated with the High Sheriff, who was once a Squirrel herself.

Year 3 and Year 4 embarked on a musical exploration with bassoon and saxophone demonstrations from Mrs Mayne and Mr Smith. These demonstrations not only revealed the inner workings of these instruments but also sparked excitement for potential future musicians among the pupils.

This term witnessed the inaugural Guitar Day, a celebration of our talented guitarists at both Warwick Prep and King's High. Renowned performer and composer, Laura Snowdon graced the occasion, sharing her global guitar adventures with the enthralled pupils. Workshops, masterclasses, and a concert followed, culminating in a symphony of strings that resonated long after the last note. Our thanks to Mr Crawford for organising this inspiring day.



Guitar Day



Squirrels in the Community

The Winter Concert was a crescendo of musical brilliance where families, friends, and the entire school community gathered to witness exceptional performances by our ensembles and Junior Choir. The afternoon ended on a high note as everyone joined in with a festive rendition of 'Winter Wonderland', signalling the start of the Christmas season.



Junior Choir at the Winter Concert

We are incredibly proud of all our young musicians, and this term, we applaud Alice and Chloe, who were accepted on the National Children's Orchestra Projects Programme; Felicity, who will be singing with the National Youth Choir; and Holly and Felicity, who have been made full Choristers in the Choirs of St Mary's in Warwick.

As the term drew to a close, the school echoed with the laughter and melodies of the younger children in their nativities, productions, and Year 3's delightful Christingle assembly. The traditional carol services, led by Year 2 and the Prep School, wrapped us in the joy and peace that music brings, leaving us with a symphony of memories to cherish and a reminder of the true meaning of Christmas.



Year 3 and Year 4 Tea Time Concert

Squirrels in the Community

Squirrels in the Community is an important part of our school calendar and once again pupils performed for senior community members from local care homes, spreading musical joy both at a special event held in school, in partnership with Kissing it Better, and at St Mary's Church, Warwick, as part of their Christmas Tree Festival. The children love to entertain, and we hope to get more involved with the local care homes throughout the year.



St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival concert



In partnership with Kissing it Better



Forest School

After a very mixed summer weatherwise, we enjoyed some joyful sunny days in Forest School at the start of term. The children were keen to see the changes we had made to Forest School and were delighted to spot a new area for the mud kitchen and more raised beds. The children helped to plant over 150 daffodil bulbs, so we are expecting a fabulous spring display.

The Squirrels Nursery children eagerly explored Forest School and quickly became familiar with the Forest School rules which keep us safe and help us look after the site. The children collected different coloured autumnal leaves to make majestic crowns and leaf confetti 'Room on the Broom' wands. There was much excitement when the children made pretend firesticks using sticks and leaves to celebrate Diwali and whooshed and zoomed them around.



Ivy and Jaeden, in NHT, whooshing their firesticks



Sophia in RSJ creating a Rangoli pattern

The Reception children learnt how to use a mortar and pestle to mash blackberries, making natural purple paint to use to create colourful pictures. They learnt about the first signs of autumn and collected leaves and other natural materials to make their own stick people and beautiful Rangoli patterns to celebrate Diwali. A highlight, this term, was harvesting our homegrown pumpkins and scooping out the seeds! We plan to sow the seeds next year.



Francis in RHE scooping out our pumpkins

Forest School Club

Forest School Club is a new after school club for Year 1 which ran for the first half of the Autumn Term and will return when daylight allows later in February. The children have had much fun exploring the new mud kitchen, cooking up culinary delights such as pine cone soup and mud pizza. At the start of October, we harvested some of our homegrown vegetables such as carrots, parsnips and pumpkins. The children were very excited to see how much the vegetables had grown! When the leaves turned golden and the conkers started to drop, the children used their imagination and creative skills to make leaf pumpkin pictures and autumn creatures!



Avaleen in 1HC harvesting carrots



Cassie in 1HC hunting for bugs



Louis in 1JB in his den

Eco News

It was wonderful to meet the new Eco Councillors at the start of the Autumn Term; they enjoyed receiving their new metal badges (recycled, of course!). Since then, we have met several times to make plans for the year.

All of the Councillors have a clear agenda....litter! They want to go on a litter pick around the campus, as any litter removed not only helps the environment but helps make a better space for us too. We will start litter picking after Christmas.

The Councillors came up with the idea of a Recycled Christmas Decoration competition, encouraging children across the school to create beautiful, handmade decorations for the special Christmas tree in the Foyer. They were incredibly impressed with the quality of the decorations and the different recycled materials used to create them. Thank you to everyone who took part. The Councillors had a very tricky decision choosing the winners for each year group.



Setting up the mammal tunnel



Prep girls with their Eco Council Christmas decoration entries

The Councillors helped to set up a mammal footprint tunnel in the Warwick School Headmaster's garden. This will help to see which animals are visiting the school site and then we can create suitable habitats for them.

Next term will bring a whole new range of activities and meetings for the Eco Councillors, and Mrs Griggs cannot wait to hear their ideas!

Cyril Investigates...

Year 3 pupils

By Isla, Sophia and Bea



Along with Cyril, Editors Isla, Sophia and Bea spoke to Year 3 pupils Annabel and Shiloh, who started in The Squirrels Nursery and Dalia and Millie, who started in Year 3, about the change from Pre-Prep to Prep.

Q *Annabel and Shiloh, how are you finding the move up to Year 3 from Year 2?*

A A: Year 3 is very different to Pre-Prep as you have more independence.

S: The lessons are harder, and you have a lot more responsibility.

Q *Dalia and Millie, how was the move from your old school to Year 3 at Warwick Prep?*

A M: I found it a little scary moving to a bigger school but everyone was very friendly so I quickly settled in.

D: I like having more homework. I miss the boys but I'm looking forward to having link days with Warwick Junior School.

Q *What is the best thing about Year 3?*

A M: I love the desks!

A: I like my new friends and I also like the Science, Art & DT classrooms.

S: I like having bigger and more spacious desks with lift-up lids.

D: I like everything!



Q *What is your favourite club?*

A M: I love gymnastics. I'm really looking forward to starting Gymnastics Club in Spring 2024.

A: My favourite club (and sport) is Football Club.

S: I enjoy Hockey Club because I love sport.

D: I like TTRockstars Club because I enjoy maths.

Q *If you had any superpower for a day, what would it be?*

A M: I would be an Egyptian mummy!

A: I would be extra kind and I would make others be kind as well.

S: I would be either invisible or a mind-reader.

D: I would want everyone in the world to be nice.

Anti-Bullying Week

By The Wellbeing Ambassadors

“Bullying is never ok. It is a cruel and a horrible thing to do to someone. Everyone at Warwick Prep has a ‘Personal Network’ with trusted adults they can go and speak to. No one deserves to experience bullying behaviour, so speak out and seek support.”

The Wellbeing Ambassadors

At the start of November, we supported the Anti-Bullying Alliance Campaign which coordinates Anti-Bullying Week each year in England and Wales. The theme this year was ‘Make A Noise About Bullying’. As Warwick Prep's Wellbeing Ambassadors, we were busy organising events for all our pupils to take part in and a launch assembly.



Our Wellbeing Ambassadors



Nursery children supporting Odd Socks Day

On Monday, we supported Odd Socks Day to celebrate what makes us all unique.

On Wednesday we held several Wellbeing Wednesday events. Before school, we organised a One Mile Walk where we encouraged all pupils to walk eight laps of the main playground which is approximately one mile. Pupils who completed eight laps were rewarded with a very special sticker.



Ready, steady, go!



Keep going!



Limbering up for the one mile walk



Well done on reaching the finishing line

Our assembly was totally devoted to 'Singing and Dancing Time'. Everyone came together for a feel-good assembly where lots of singing and dancing took place to raise spirits and start the day in a positive and friendly way.



Singing and Dancing assembly



Franscesca in 1JF doing breathing exercises in her cosy teepee



Harrison in 2AD made a relaxing glitter jar



William in 2JW and Alex in NHT taking part in some fun exercise



Amaya in 6CM and her dad built a snuggle den whilst listening to classical music

Earlier in the week, all pupils were asked to think of something nice to say about one person in their class and write it down on the compliments slip we designed. Everybody took their compliments slip outside with them at breaktime and handed it to their friend to make them smile. In our PSHEE lessons, we discussed issues and scenarios surrounding bullying, including how to recognise it and what to do if you are being bullied or witness bullying.

For homework, children were encouraged to complete a Wellbeing Wednesday Task from our 'Self-care Toolkit'. In the Toolkit, there were a range of activities for all members of our school community to take part in including creating a cosy den, dancing, making a glitter jar and blowing bubbles.

We want to thank everyone who supported our campaign and took part in our activities this week.



Sophie in 2JW collected natural materials to make a cat picture



Phillipa in 5KC taking part in mindfulness drawing



Olivia in 5KC and Michael in RCM dancing for joy

Charity News

This term, Warwick Prep's charity efforts have been dedicated to instilling the values of compassion and kindness in the hearts of everyone. With a mission to help our community, we have undertaken various initiatives to help those in need.

This year, our Harvest collection was donated to the Warwick District Foodbank which plays a crucial role in providing emergency food supplies and support to individuals in crisis in Warwick, Leamington, and Kenilworth. This collective effort resulted in a 'bumper crop' of donations from the children of Warwick Prep and we were delighted to receive a certificate of thanks from Andy Bower at the Warwick District Foodbank.

The Poppy Appeal resonated strongly with Warwick Prep this term, with sales of poppies and poppy merchandise raising over £700. All proceeds were donated to The Royal British Legion. The week concluded with a historic tank parked on site.

Children in Need week was a 'spotacular' success, with Pudsey-related activities raising an astounding £2237.02! Each form had a 'pawsome' time in the Pudsey Room, playing fun games and challenges. We were very impressed with everyone who took part in the Pudsey BEARpees challenge over half term, in particular, Hugo, in 2AD, who raised £415.

Thank you to everyone who has donated foreign coins and small change to the House Penny Challenge. We have raised £240.84 so far which will be donated to the House Charities.

The success of Warwick Prep's charitable endeavours wouldn't have been possible without the dedication of its House Captains and Charity Team. Zoe, Imogen, Holly, Sienna, Siya, Amaya, and Scarlett played essential roles in organising, rallying, counting and encouraging their peers, setting a remarkable example of seeing charity as an act of extending kindness to others unconditionally. Thank you!



Year 4 Harvest assembly



Girls from 3LG supporting Children in Need



Year 6 girls admiring the FV107 Scimitar tank



Thea in 1KD selling cakes for Children in Need



Our House Penny Challenge



George and Teddy, in NWR, donning their Pudsey ears for Children in Need



Emily in 1JB dressed as Pudsey



Hugo in 2AD supporting Children in Need

Remembrance Day

We welcomed Lieutenant Colonel Tony Glover, Chairman of the Warwick branch of The Royal British Legion to launch our Poppy Appeal. He explained Remembrance Day, The Royal British Legion's vital work, and the significance of the poppy.

To honour Remembrance, Year 5 led a moving service in the Warwick School Chapel. Amidst memorials to Old Warwickians who gave their lives for their country, the children delivered a powerful testimony to the experiences of so many, with a particular focus on the 'Great War' of 1914-1918 and the Second World War of 1939-1945.

During Remembrance Week, we were pleased to raise over £700 for The Royal British Legion.



Lieutenant Colonel Tony Glover launching our Poppy Appeal



Year 5 in Warwick School Chapel

St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival

A stunning display of over 70 real, beautifully decorated Christmas trees lined the aisles of St Mary's Church, Warwick for their annual Christmas Tree Festival.



Year 6 eco-friendly handmade decorations



Paper birds made from sheet music

Warwick Prep sponsored a tree which was adorned with handmade, eco-friendly Christmas decorations made by Year 6 pupils from air-dry clay, dried oranges, cinnamon sticks and pine cones.

We hope you were able to visit the Christmas Tree Festival and vote for our tree. Ollie was delighted to hear we were awarded the prize for 'Most Seasonal Tree'!



Ollie admiring our 'Most Seasonal Tree'

News from our Digital Leaders

It has been a busy term for all our new Digital Leaders. Our introductions began with our established Leaders talking about the type of jobs that our Digital Leaders do across the school, from presenting in assemblies to creating surveys. Then, our new Leaders embarked on their training through the Childnet Digital Leader platform, focusing on everything from being kind online to what to do if someone online asks to meet you in the real world.



Ayah-Sofia in 6JJ presenting Codey



Our Digital Leaders

We had a special visit from one of our Year 6 Digital Leaders, Ayah-Sofia, in 6JJ, who was presented with her special prizes for naming the new Digital Leader platform's mascot, Codey! Ayah-Sofia's naming idea was loved by the judges for its links between Computing and being kind, which are two very important attributes Digital Leaders need to help their peers.

After completing their training, our new Digital Leaders have been busy working on pupil surveys to help with Anti-Bullying Week. They ventured out onto the playground with iPads to share their surveys with pupils across the Prep department and discovered some very interesting ideas about what to do if children came across bullying whilst online. During their surveys, the Leaders were able to share their ideas for how to stay safe online both in school and at home!

Code Club

By Amalia and Susannah



Every Tuesday evening is Code Club night for all girls in Year 5 and Year 6 who are interested in computer languages! Each week, we have the opportunity to explore different programming projects using platforms such as Scratch and Raspberry Pi. So far, we have used our coding skills to make games, characters and lots more. If you are ever stuck on what to do, there are lots of tutorials on the Code Club website that can help you with that.



Coding the way to the moon



Year 5 and Year 6 Coders!

At the end of each session, we present our work to the group so that we can share ideas and inspire each other! We have also participated in a competition called 'Astro Pi', where we worked in teams to figure out a puzzle, which will be sent to the astronauts in the International Space Station! Code Club is great fun and develops skills such as logic, reasoning and problem solving which are all useful for life in the 21st century, as well as having a better understanding of technology.

European Day of Languages

In September, we celebrated European Languages Day which encourages an appreciation for the many languages spoken on our continent, from French and Spanish to German and Italian, and even lesser-known languages like Dutch, Swedish and Portuguese.

Madame Ousset started the day with an assembly which introduced different languages. Pupils from King's High explained why it's important (and fun!) to learn a language and promote linguistic diversity around us. Warwick Prep children then shared with how to say 'hello' in different languages, showing how diverse how school community is, and challenged the rest of the school to try learning a new language!



Collaborating with King's High on European Languages Day

Behind the Scenes – Madame Ousset

By Amalia and Susannah

Amalia and Susannah went behind the scenes with Head of Modern Foreign Languages, Madame Ousset, to discuss all things travel.



Q How long have you been a languages teacher?

A I've been teaching languages for 22 years. I used to be a primary school teacher in France and when I moved to the UK, I retrained and worked in a secondary school for 13 years. I then moved to Warwick Prep and I've been teaching here for 11 years.

Q What did you want to be when you were growing up?

A I always wanted to be a teacher. When I was younger, I used to line up my teddies and teach them lessons! If I wasn't a teacher, I would like to be a police officer.

Q What was your favourite subject at school?

A Languages, of course! I had three: Languages, Art and History of Art.

Q Which languages do you speak?

A I speak Spanish, French and English.



Q If you could learn a new language, what would it be?

A I would like to learn Thai, as I enjoy visiting Thailand. I'd love to retire there.

Q What is your favourite meal?

A I think that would be l'escargot (snails).

Maths Week

Maths Week was a great success! Our theme for the week was 'Time'. Time plays a central role in our lives and affects everything we do. It plays a significant role in determining how our experiences, from daily routines to significant events, are shaped.

Across school, we mastered telling the time, read stories about time and solved many problems involving time. Other highlights of the week included The Primary Maths Challenge which was completed by Year 5 and Year 6 and in the Prep department, several battles and competitions on TT Rockstars, as part of their England Rocks online times table competition. The girls had much fun competing in the challenge whilst dressed up in rockstar props!



In The Squirrels Nursery, the children discussed the differences between day and night, before sorting 'day' and 'night' objects into hoops. When sorting the objects, many of the children remembered how some objects could be put into both hoops. The children had great fun using a digital clock to count how many hops, claps, star jumps they could do in one minute.



TT Rockstars England Rocks

Nursery children sorting day and night objects

Question Time

Miss Fulker, Head of Maths



By Pippa and Romilly

- Q** How do you feel about being Head of Maths at Warwick Prep?
- A** I feel excited and honoured and I'm really looking forward to the adventures here.
- Q** Describe yourself in three words?
- A** I would describe myself as organised, positive and kind.
- Q** What did you want to be when you were younger?
- A** When I was younger, I wanted to be a teacher. I used to line up all my dolls and pretend I was teaching them.
- Q** What is your favourite Maths topic?
- A** My favourite topic is Fractions and problem solving. I enjoy a good Mathsbuster!
- Q** Do you prefer cube, square or prime numbers?
- A** I prefer square numbers because the date of my birthday, the 4th, is a square number.
- Q** What would you teach if you didn't teach Maths?
- A** I would teach PE because I used to play badminton and netball for Warwickshire, and I love to run. In 2022, I ran the London Marathon for the charity Oxfam.



- Q** If you were an animal what would you be?
- A** My pet dog, Bramble so I could go on long walks.

Pupdate on Basil

In the summer term, Mrs Alder introduced a new member of the Warwick Prep community, Basil. Basil is a golden retriever cross who is being trained by the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association to become a guide dog. Basil's training takes around 24 months and we have enjoyed receiving updates on his progress.



Basil helping at the supermarket



Looking the part Basil!

“Basil has been busy growing. He’s still Mr Laid Back, very chilled but also extremely affectionate. Basil still adores his bed; he’ll take it outside to lounge in the sun. He’s maturing and going through a teenage phase, so he can be a little stubborn sometimes, which in my opinion is typical of any teenage boy! Basil’s lovely and I love being his puppy raiser. Raising him would make anyone want to welcome another young life changer into their home.”

Justine, Basil's Puppy Raiser.

Collaborating with King's High

Pupils from Year 6 at Warwick Prep School met with Year 8 at King's High School to participate in their Festival of Ideas Week. Inspired by Henri Matisse, the girls used acrylic paints to create organic shapes and patterns before combining them to create a collaborative wall hanging.



Working together to create a Matisse inspired wall hanging

Link Day with Warwick Junior School

By Pippa and Romilly



On Friday 10 November, Year 5 and Year 6 pupils from Warwick Prep had a fabulous Link Day with Warwick Junior School. The theme was the Coldplay song, 'A Sky Full of Stars'.

Just after lunch, the Year 5 girls walked over to Warwick Junior School to meet the Year 5 boys and take part in activities focusing on music, art and dance. They enjoyed learning a street dance routine.



Year 6



Year 5

Meanwhile, the Year 6 boys walked over to Warwick Prep, and we were all put into groups of boys and girls. Our activity was to design and make an outfit out of newspaper in 45 minutes. We had lots of fun thinking of our design and working out how we were going to make it. After the time was up, all the groups gathered into the Hall for a catwalk. All the outfits were incredible, and we had such a great time!

Aqua Fun Club

By Pippa and Romilly



Aqua Fun is a new Year 6 club run by Miss Carvell. It takes place on a Monday morning so is a great way to wake yourself up before a week of school! The club is full of fun activities such as water courses, water polo, synchronised swimming, and lifesaving. Aqua Fun is a great time to have fun in the pool whilst improving your swimming but also teaches you how to be safe in the water and keep others safe too.



Members of Aqua Fun Club



Creating the star formation



Practising underwater handstands

Nativity! The Musical

By Susannah



In the summer term, the auditions for 'Nativity! The Musical' took place. They were extremely competitive with approximately 300 children applying and only 60 getting in. The auditions involved dancing and performing a song from Nativity (I chose to do Nazareth) but we had the option to choose between: Nazareth, One Night One Moment or Sparkle and Shine. After that, we discovered if we had been successful and which cast we would be joining – I was put into team Stardust, the others were Sparkle and Shine. I was overjoyed when I was accepted and prepared to practise really hard.



Phoebe in 5AM and Amelie in 5KC



With Hattie, in 6CM, during our dress rehearsal

The rehearsals mainly involved choreography, singing, solos and blocking (where you need to stand). We also have a special charter for which the 3 main rules are: focus, patience and don't forget to wash your head and clean your feet! We all had to sign it to show we agree to the rules. The three casts have been rehearsing separately in the week and together at the weekends. From mid-November, we have been joined by the professionals which has made rehearsals more exciting as the show has started to come together.

At the end of November, we have had technical and dress rehearsals, some of which last nearly all day. I am feeling a bit nervous about my first performance but I am also really excited and looking forward to it. I have twelve performances in total to do, the last of which is on Wednesday 27 December. I really look forward to seeing members of the Warwick Prep community in the audience and I really hope that you enjoy the show.

Art Gallery

Nursery



Remembrance poppy painting by Archie in NHT



Harvest scarecrow by Isabella in NPB



Autumn leaf painting by Rome in NWR

Reception



First Day painting by Sophia in RSJ



First Day painting by Michael in RCM



First Day painting by Alice in REB

Year 2



Self-portrait by Margot in 2WS



Winter scene by Arthur in 2JW



Kenyan giraffe by Woody in 2AD

Year 3

After studying the patterns and textures of fruit, Year 3 made mixed media Tutti Fruitti artwork.



By Nia in 3VS



By Fliss in 3LW



By Molly in 3LW

Year 4

Year 4 have created David Hockney inspired landscapes using charcoal.



By Emilia, Dylan, Gaby and Nieve in 4MC



By Eisher, Eliska, Lara, Ottie, Pahal and Savannah in 4HF



By Alice, Clara, Hardaya, Martha and Pippa in 4LG

Year 6

After exploring the work of Emma Dibben, Year 6 sketched under the sea inspired designs and painted using water colours.



By Molly in 6CM



By Shan in 6JJ



By Olivia in 6SW



WPSA

Warwick Preparatory School
Association

WPSA News

By Nicola Marklew, WPSA Communications

WPSA Committee

WPSA is a charity run by a team of volunteer parents and teachers, with a commitment to devoting time to further the great opportunities that Warwick Prep has to offer. We run the WPSA Uniform Shop, enabling parents to sell and purchase second-hand uniform, and we organise fun-filled events and activities, donating funds raised to enhance the children's educational experience. If you are interested in joining the WPSA Committee, please do reach out to your Class Rep.

The monies raised with your support over the past year have enabled us to fund great resources for the school, including iPads, musical instruments, equality and diversity resources, snooze mats, and support other bids from teachers and children.

Thank you for your continued support.

You spoke, we listened!

At the end of the last school year, we asked for your feedback on WPSA events. We really appreciate all the responses we received which have been invaluable in helping us to shape an exciting calendar for both parents and children during the year ahead.

This will include a variety of events held at the school, with flexible payment methods and convenient times. We will hold new events while continuing with our popular Christmas and Summer Fairs, Easter Egg Hunt and Prep Disco Night.

This year, we aim to raise funds to support the development of a new outdoor classroom in the Forest School area, which will be utilised by children from both Warwick Prep and Warwick Junior School. Outdoor classrooms have been proven to increase interest in a subject and intrinsic motivation to learn, giving children a longer retention of information, increased focus and creativity, as well as better sleep!



WPSA Macmillan Coffee Morning

WPSA's first event of the year was hosting a Macmillan Coffee Morning. Thank you so much to everyone who baked or donated the wonderful cakes for us to sell, and raise money for this fantastic charity! It was lovely to see so many people chatting with friends whilst enjoying tea, coffee and cakes. We raised £792.70 for Macmillan Cancer Support which brings our current total raised to £25,697.41 since 1995 - amazing! We couldn't do it without you and your generous donations, and of course the delicious cakes!



WPSA Bingo

On Friday 13 October (lucky for some!), WPSA held their first in-person Bingo Afternoon since the pandemic. It was great fun and the children really seemed to enjoy it (the adults seemed to get quite into it too!). We had food, fun and laughs with some super prizes for the winners, all whilst raising nearly £400.



WPSA Pumpkin Carving Competition

At Halloween, we held the spooktacular WPSA Pumpkin Carving Competition. It was hard to choose winners with so many scary and creative entries! Well done everyone!

The winners were:

- Pre-Prep: Hunter in 1JB
- Prep: Lydia in 6CM
- Family: Lottie in RCM
- Overall: Francis in RHE

Thank you to everyone who took part and made their donations to enter.



WPSA Pumpkin Competition 2023 Winners



WPSA Christmas Fair

We were very excited to welcome so many of you to our Christmas Fair on Friday 9 December. There were festive stalls with games, tombolas and crafts for all the children (and adults) to enjoy. We hope you left feeling full of festive cheer!

Timeline Mural

The new timeline mural was installed over the half term holiday, and wow, it looks fantastic! With a great mix of information to include topics covered in school, key dates in history, various inspiring historical and modern figures, great pictures, and infographics, WPSA is proud to contribute to items like this, providing a great focal point for learning and inspiring all our children.



WPSA Uniform Shop

We have had several very successful sales this term. Our sale at the end of September coincided with the Macmillan Coffee Morning and proved to be very busy. We introduced a Christmas Jumper donation scheme during the November sale to allow old jumpers to be re-used, with proceeds going to WPSA and Save the Children.

We donated a big box of the old-style, blue jumpers to the Ukraine Charity Shop based in the Prior Shopping Centre in conjunction with the Polish Community Centre. We hope to receive updates as to how these have been used/donated and these will be shared in due course.



We have some exciting news on how we will be re-using the old logo grey blazers which we have in our stock, and this information will be shared with parents in the Summer Term (if you still have old blazers at home, keep hold of them for this announcement!).

In 2024, we will be looking to donate money towards the Science Department to support Science Week, enabling external providers to visit for exciting science events. We hope to announce more details on this throughout the year.

As always, many thanks for your support of the WPSA Uniform Shop. Shopping and selling with us really does a lot more than just helping to rehome school uniform!

Our next sale is:

- Friday 8 March 2024, 7.45am-8.45am

@WPSACentral

@WPSA10

@wpsa_prep

Foundation Community

Exciting developments to our sports facilities

Sport is an integral part of a Warwick Schools Foundation education. Enabling all our pupils to develop their sporting interests requires outstanding facilities. Our ambition is to ensure that we can offer unrivalled opportunities for those whose interest is recreational as well as our elite sportspeople.

Developments include refurbishment of 17 acres of the Kingsley Sports Fields in Leamington Spa, as well as new cricket nets, additional Astroturf pitches, tennis and netball courts, and a new pavilion with changing facilities and associated support for sports services and hospitality at the Foundation's Warwick campus.



There are also plans to enable better access to facilities for all pupils in the Foundation. By developing each site in parallel and taking into account the needs of all our pupils, we can create a suite of facilities which benefit the whole Foundation community. With each site being just a short journey from each other, it will be possible to 'mix and match' usage, extending opportunities without compromising access.

"The schools' Directors of Sport have worked together with the Foundation Bursar and architects from Lawson Ward Studio to maximise the sporting opportunities on site. These plans create maximum flexibility in delivering an ever-widening range of sporting activities and increase sporting opportunities for all our pupils."

Richard Nicholson, Foundation Principal

"At Warwick Prep, we have a proven record of developing a life long love of sport and providing competitive opportunities for our children, enabling them to compete at a national level year on year. Investing and providing world-class sporting facilities raises aspiration and provides inspiration."

Hellen Dodsworth, Headmistress, Warwick Preparatory School

"The development of the facilities will enable us as a Prep School to take sport to the next level, we have gone from strength to strength, due to our specialist staff. Sport is an integral part of the Prep School, with fundamental skills and movement being so crucial in these formative ages, we strive for maximum participation and inclusion, with these improved facilities meaning an even more extensive provision, at times that are more accessible to all children. We are passionate and driven as a department and strive for national success and recognition in a variety of sports, a feat that can be reached with further access to facilities."

Katie Clark, Director of Sport, Warwick Preparatory School

We are confident that these developments will see the Foundation being able to offer the most comprehensive sporting facilities locally, support all our pupils in their sporting pursuits, and enable enhanced opportunities for all, meeting the needs of our current and future generations of pupils.



Foundation Service of Thanksgiving

Friday 29 September 2023

2:15-3:15pm
St Mary's Church, Warwick

Warwick Schools Foundation Service of Thanksgiving

On Friday 29 September, we held our annual Warwick Schools Foundation Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary's Church, Warwick to celebrate our school community. Warwick Prep Headmistress, Mrs Hellen Dodsworth, was accompanied by children from Warwick Prep along with pupils from King's High School, Warwick Junior School, Warwick School and The Kingsley School, their respective Heads and our Foundation Principal, Mr Richard Nicholson.

With performances from the Foundation Symphony Orchestra and a solo by Year 6 Warwick Prep pupil, Grace, the service brought together our Foundation schools to reflect and celebrate what makes us special and unique.

High Sheriff's Legal Service

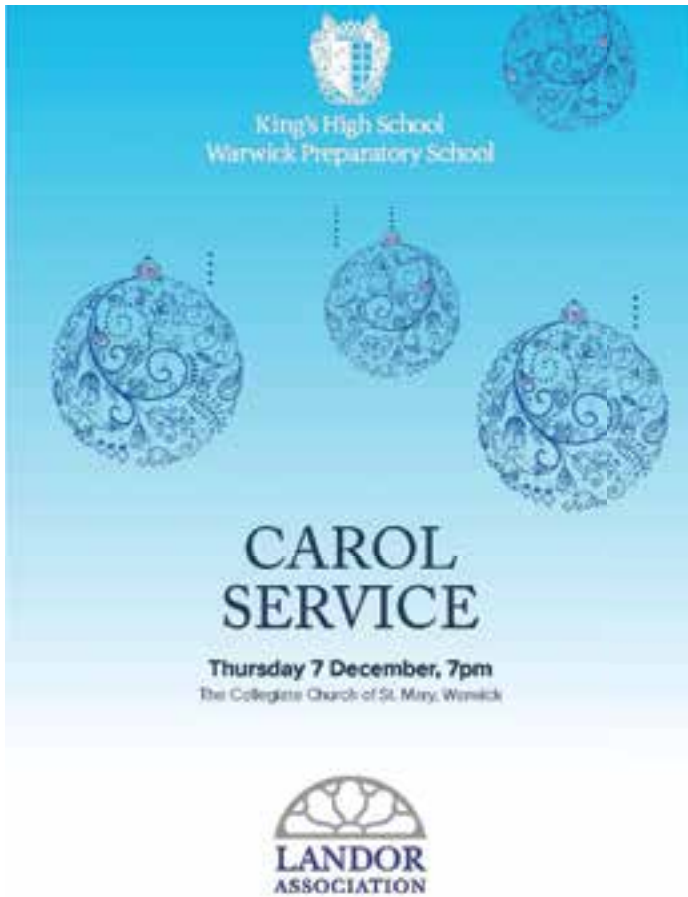
On Tuesday 3 October, the Warwick Prep Senior Choir delighted the High Sheriff and packed St Mary's Church in Warwick with their stunning rendition of 'Let Love Shine Through'.

Foundation Parent Pastoral Forum – Generative Artificial Intelligence

Presented by Foundation Director of Digitally Enabled Learning, Jenny Parkinson-Mills, the Foundation Parent Pastoral Forum on Thursday 19 October focused on Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) and how to support children to use it effectively, ethically and safely. Foundation parents found the evening incredibly informative, especially as we are all surrounded by A.I. in our daily lives.

Landor Association Carol Service

On Thursday 7 December, parents, friends and pupils were treated to a magical evening at the Landor Association Carol Service. The service was a musical feast with a rousing rendition of 'The Shepherd's Carol' by the Warwick Prep Senior Choir and readings by Warwick Prep Headmistress, Mrs Hellen Dodsworth and Head and Deputy Head girls. Thank you to the Foundation Music Departments for putting together a superb programme.



Landor Association 'The Ilex 2023'

We are delighted to share the latest edition of The Ilex magazine, summarising the activities of King's High and Warwick Prep over the 2022-2023 academic year.

Many former pupils and staff remember The Ilex magazine as King's High's school publication from 1912 to 2014. In 2020, we relaunched a new-style Ilex as the magazine of the Landor Association, including features from pupils, staff, governors and parents past and present – the whole Landor community for King's High and Warwick Prep. We hope you enjoy issue No. 134 of The Ilex, the fourth in its new format, where you will meet our new 'Happy Hens', learn about how King's High celebrated the past five Coronations, and why many Old Girls are taking up running well beyond their teens. View your copy here landorassociation.co.uk



Orchestra of the Swan

Orchestra of the Swan continue their residency at Warwick Schools Foundation, as Warwick Hall becomes the venue for three more professional concerts from this world-renowned orchestra.

The first sold-out concert of the season was Neoclassic, where the audience enjoyed classical pieces from Xuefei Yang on guitar.

Canticum

Canticum, the Warwick Schools Foundation Choral Society, performed their Canticum Concert in the King's High Hall, where Foundation friends and family enjoyed performances of Poulenc 'Gloria' and Rutter 'Gloria'.



Nativity! The Musical

Nativity! The Musical is coming to Bridge House Theatre this December! The high-level production features a mixture of West End cast members as well as a community cast; including children from the Foundation Schools and wider community. It's a fantastic show for all the family. Book your tickets today bridgehousetheatre.co.uk



Key Dates Spring 2024

Term Commences:
Tuesday 9 January

Half Term:
Monday 12 – Friday 16 February

Term Ends:
Friday 22 March

OPEN EVENTS 2024

Open Morning:
Saturday 16 March

Open Afternoon:
Tuesday 30 April

For more information about our events,
please visit our website
warwickprep.com



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