



Weekly News 9th November 2018



From the Head

Congratulations to everyone involved in the opening night of "Cinderella". I thought I would share with you this wonderful review of the performance which I received this morning from one of our guests:

"There was a tangible buzz of anticipation in the theatre prior to the show; the rapturous applause and animated conversation after the performers took their final curtain said it all. The opening night of Cinderella was a resounding success.

All the performers and soloists were very well cast, and we loved the quiet moments of Cinderella's isolation, but also her feisty 21st century determination that she too would fulfil her destiny. Her stepmother and sisters entertained us hugely, and her fairy godmother offered a strong stage presence to begin and end the show. Equally memorable were the Prince and his loyal steward and parents. The stars were more than ably supported by the well-choreographed and lively villagers and guests at the ball; the heralds, the superb puppeteers who were cleverly transformed into horses. The audience was swept along by the energy and enthusiasm of the cast, the bright costumes and the cleverly lit background and staging. The vital elements of surprise were there too, from seeing Cinderella's transformation to seeing members of staff trying on the glass slipper!

As always, the quality of the music was exceptional. Seamlessly, the musicians moved from scene to scene and everyone left humming the final song. Like every good show, individual performances, the unity of the cast, power of the music, visual delight and sense of energy made it a night to remember."

It is not too late to buy tickets for tonight and tomorrow's performances. Tickets can be purchased at Aberdeen Performing Arts by visiting www.aberdeenperformingarts.com/whats-on/musical/cinderella-enchanted-edition/1660.







Cinderella





Visit to the dentist - 1 Junior

1 Junior have been learning about people who help us and, in particular, how the dentist helps to keep our teeth clean and healthy. In class, the girls learned the names of their teeth, practised brushing their teeth for 2 minutes and had fun extracting marshmallow teeth in a game. The class visited Henderson and Hardy Dental Practice on Rubislaw Place and some tried sitting in the chair and moving it up and down. They enjoyed feeling the air and suction equipment on their hands. Dr Chris Henderson very kindly gave all the girls a 'tooth pack' to encourage them to clean their teeth twice a day.

Mrs J. Garden





Teddy Bear Hospital - 1 Junior

1 Junior and the nursery children took part in a Teddy Bear Hospital workshop which was organised by the Medical students at Aberdeen University. The children were able to take their sick and injured teddies to the doctor's surgery and helped to give their teddies a general health check-up. They were given a certificate and sticker for being very good patients. They also helped with giving a teddy an operation and were able to use various pieces of equipment during the operation.

They learned about the bones in their bodies and the equipment a doctor needs to use. It was a fantastic experience for all the children.

Mrs J. Garden



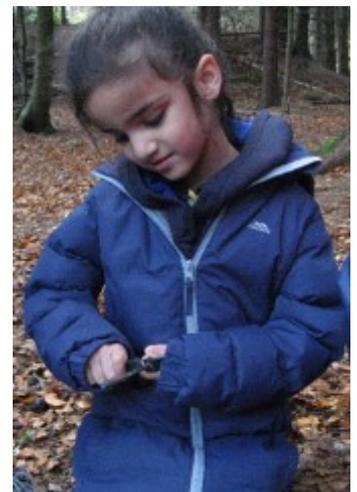


Outdoor learning at Hazlehead Woods - 1 and 2 Junior

For the last two weeks, 1 and 2 Junior have taken the public bus to Hazlehead woods for their outdoor learning. During the first week, the girls enjoyed exploring the woods and climbing up the slopes. In small groups, the girls made dens for hibernating hedgehogs and left pumpkins and seeds in the dens for them.

This week, the girls learned how to whittle sticks using vegetable peelers and used them to toast marshmallows over a fire pit. The Aberdeen City rangers helped us with the fire and showed the girls how to make sparks using flint. The girls also left Cheerios on branches and twigs for the birds. They were able to explore the dens that they had made last week to see if there were any signs of animals visiting them. They all thoroughly enjoyed their visit and are looking forward to more outdoor learning in the summer term.

Mrs J. Garden





Outdoor learning (continued)

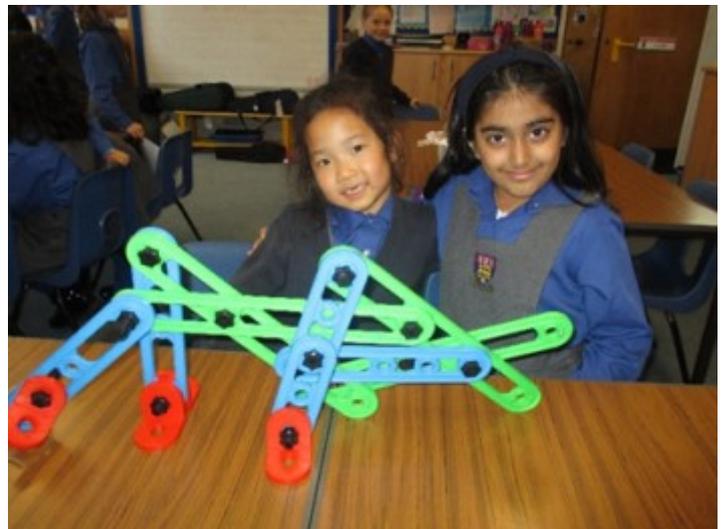




Moving Structures in 3 Junior

Following on from listening to the story of Hamish McHaggis and The Wonderful Water Wheel by Linda Strachan and Sally J. Collins the girls undertook the challenge to build their own moving structure. They eagerly sorted through the construction sets to choose the materials they needed and happily started to build. The main challenges faced were getting the structure to stand independently and the parts to move! This activity was a test of perseverance and determination. The girls worked tirelessly for two afternoons and are very proud of their achievements.

Mrs E. Gibb





Buddy Grandmas and Grandpa Part 2

Today we had the opportunity to meet up with our Buddy Grandmas and Grandpa and share our favourite stories. We read and discussed our stories and got to listen to others. Margaret brought along a story that only had black and white drawings; no colour illustrations! After sharing our reading we described our alien and asked our buddy to draw it. This was lots of fun!

“These girls are a delight.” - Margaret.

“I look forward to coming.” - Mary





Exhibition of Democracy in Art Poster Award

The Democracy in Art Poster Award was open to primary boys and girls between primary five and primary seven from schools across Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire. The award was organised by the school as a way of marking the centenary of the vote for women. It was also designed to give pupils an opportunity to develop their understanding of what it means to be a responsible contributor to society. Entries were invited from youngsters across the region based on the broad theme of democracy. Everyone who took part in the artistic competition was invited, along with their families and also their art teachers, to attend an exhibition of the artworks at St Margaret's.

The winners and runners-up were formally announced at the event which took place last Saturday. We were delighted to welcome the young artists who entered the first St Margaret's Poster Art Competition, as well as their families and teachers. The subject of democracy obviously appealed to and captured the imaginations of the pupils who entered and we were overwhelmed by the amount of entries we received. Certificates were given to all entrants to the competition, which was sponsored by Hobbycraft, Papeterie Crafts and Soroptimist International Aberdeen, with representatives from Soroptimist International and RGU's Gray's School of Art being on the judging panel. The winners and runners-up in each category also received a mixed media art set. A paper box and craft set was also given to the class of the winning school in each category, as well as a £50 cash prize.

Ms K. Schmitz



For Wayne Mills, Kids' Lit Quiz has been a labour of love that has taken him away from his native Auckland, across the globe, from October to December every year for the last twenty seven years. In my conversation with him on Wednesday afternoon, he said that voracious, sophisticated readers needed nurturing and he wasn't seeing that happening so he decided to do something about it. That has been his vision and his passion since he embarked on his quest nearly thirty years ago, and he linked it directly to the preservation of democracy. A concept that might be giving us all a little more food for thought in the light of current political movements.

He has certainly succeeded in that aim: at the end of Wednesday's proceedings, it was clear that this had been the most competitive and highest scoring North East contest since its inception four years ago. The scores were exceptionally high and I am delighted to report that our teams – although they did not win – acquitted themselves very, very well. They won several rounds between them – on France, Royalty, and Harry Potter - and each team member was able to choose a book so they have not returned empty handed! There were also only three marks separating one of our teams from the team who won second place.

Lucy (our willing substitute) and I also tried our hand at the questions from our seats in the audience and – to our great surprise – our two best categories were Royalty and Ships! I also won one of the quiz rounds directed at the adults, seemingly the only audience member to know James Clavell's *Shogun* novels; clearly I was the only Richard Chamberlain fan in the audience!

Wayne Mills also takes the opportunity to recommend his favourite reads of the last year, both contemporary and classic. He recommended Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged*, which is most coincidental as one of our pupils requested that same author for the library the following day! He also recommended Geraldine McCaughrean's *Where the World Ends* which won the Carnegie medal in 2018. For science fiction fans, he also recommended Philip Reeve's trilogy *Railhead*. So, a very worthwhile competition and we will be adding his recommendations to our library bookshelves!

Mrs D. Dale





Modern Languages visit to Belmont Cinema

On Wednesday I and II Senior girls went to a screening of the French film, 'Belle et Sébastien 3'.

Viewing films in a foreign language enables the girls to understand more by interpreting the language in a full visual context. They can listen to the language exchanges and simultaneously watch facial expressions and gestures, to aid their comprehension.

The film is about the friendship of Sébastien and his dog, Belle. Having survived the Second World War and many trials, they happily healed in the French Alps, along with a foster family and three puppies. Sadly the friends are separated by a cruel man named Joseph, who declares himself the real owner of Belle. When he kidnaps Belle and her puppies, Sebastian sets off to rescue them.

Mrs H. Nehring



Panto time!

It's that time of the year again, when pantomime season is almost upon us. This year our very own Tiana in I Senior will be playing the part of Tigerlily in the Attic Theatre's production of Peter Pan. Tiana will be one of two Tigerlilies sharing the role, and Tiana will be in the following performances: 8th and 9th December (matinee); 12th, 14th, 15th, 18th, 20th and 22nd December (evening performances). Tickets can be bought at www.aberdeenperformingarts.com/whats-on/family/peter-pan/1346

Ms K. Schmitz



St Margaret's School for Girls
presents

Rodgers and Hammerstein's

Cinderella

Music By
Richard Rodgers

Book and Lyrics by
Oscar Hammerstein II



ABERDEEN ARTS CENTRE
Thursday 8th and Friday 9th at 7pm.
Saturday 10th November at 5pm.
Tickets available from Aberdeen box office:
www.aberdeenperformingarts.com

An amateur production by arrangement with R&H Theatricals Europe
From the teleplay by Robert L. Freedman Adapted for the stage by Tom Briggs

CHARLIE HOUSE

S N T A F U N R U N



UNION STREET

SUNDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER 2018

EMAIL fundraise@charliehouse.org.uk

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