



YEAR 6 SKI TRIP, ALPES D'HUEZ 2012

We all forgot a nice relaxing Saturday morning as we got up promptly to make our way to the school as we needed to get on a coach to Gatwick. Personally, I was very excited as it was my first ski trip. We left the inconsolable parents waving at the windows and running after the bus, we knew they would dearly miss having to negotiate with their children over homework. We boarded our plane, arrived at Grenoble airport and after passing what seemed like a very picky French customs officer, we boarded our coach to Alpe D'Huez. After driving up through the 21 hairpin bends to the resort, we arrived at our hotel. The rooms were spacious and the beds were comfortable. We had our first dinner at the hotel and it was delicious as all the meals were throughout the course of our stay. We had our first ski lesson and I had a brilliant instructor who really contributed to teaching me how to ski. We did great activities each night which included our visit to a café to order a crepe (in French) and our trip to InVertigo which is an indoor play area 30ft in the air - I was extremely frightened and spent most of my time clinging to the netting. We progressed enormously over the next few days skiing. Mr Puckle said he expected us all to have "personal hygiene", so from then on we showered every night. One person, who shall not be named, didn't change his underwear during the entire course of the week! By the last few days we were really excelling in our skiing. In my last 3 days I went on my first chair lift and gondola having been on drag lifts for the start of the week. On our last ski lesson we went on the "Scare Chair". The scare chair is a chair lift which goes very steeply over the edge of a cliff and down, very frightening for some, plummeting down a cliff in a wobbly chair! We had a presentation with our instructors telling us what level we had achieved during the course of the week. I achieved the first star which I was very happy with for my first week of skiing. We were all very sad to leave the lovely hotel, the skiing and the iconic views around Alpe D'Huez. We also had to pack our suitcases, which was very difficult for people in my room who had dumped our clothes all over the floor. We took the coach to Grenoble airport and then took a safe flight home and then the final trip back to school. Children were reunited emotionally with their overjoyed parents, marking the end of the most exciting adventure of my life so far! *Fergus 6P (Ski fan).*



For more photos visit www.kgps.co.uk/blog/year-6-ski-blog



SHARK SPOTTED BY RECEPTION CLASS

Southbank in the sunshine and it's only March! What a fantastic day we had at the London Aquarium. We saw some of the most fascinating sea creatures in the whole world from turtles to terrapins, penguins to puffer fish and sharks to sea horses. The crocodile was the most exciting of all. He was so still we thought he wasn't real but then he twitched a leg and we all jumped! He slowly went into the water and all the fish swam very quickly in the other direction... some reception children and teachers moved very quickly in the opposite direction too!



"I loved the waddling penguins! They were very funny."
Molly RG

"My favourites were the sharks. They were enormous and I thought they looked very hungry." **Sam RG**

"Seahorses and starfish were the prettiest of all the sea creatures." **Cristina RG**

"At the aquarium I liked the sharks because they were scary and chased the fish." **Tom (RK)**

"I really liked the orange and white clownfish because it looked like Nemo the fish." **Felix (RK)**

"I loved the octopus. He had wiggly tentacles and could shrink to the size of a rock." **Iris (RK)**

"I saw diving penguins! They liked swimming under water and were really friendly." **Flora (RK)**

'AIN'T NO MOUNTAIN HIGH ENOUGH'



Is that an instructor up there showing the children what to do? No, it's Tom in 1G ... he's 5!

Yesterday (Thursday, 15th March) we went to the Westway Rock Climbing Centre. We went to Westway on the coach. All of 1K and 1G put helmets on to protect us. The instructors also put harnesses on us and we were ready to play games and climb. I pushed with my feet and pulled with my hands to climb up the wall. Everyone was great! When we had finished climbing we caught the coach back to school. We were all starving and enjoyed Shepherd's Pie. I really loved having a playtime outside when we got back with just 1K and 1G. **Albie 1K**

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY ...



Young Citizens now - Global Citizens of the future!

On Monday, 19th March, Year 6 went to Richmond Park to take part in a Young Citizen workshop - designed to show how to cope in emergency situations and how to keep safe in everyday life. There were 10 'stations', each designed for us to deal with an emergency or dilemma. Not only were these stations very realistic but they were run by real 'heroes' and experts such as Firefighters, Paramedics, Police, Transport for London Staff

and many more. Some stations involved calling 999 - which we actually got to do - and spoke to a real person, we all found this to be a really beneficial experience. One station involved escaping a fire! Another involved being detectives with the Metropolitan Police after witnessing someone being mugged and having their phone stolen. We also investigated a crash in which a bike and car collided, the driver fleeing the scene. Following a search for evidence we concluded the car was stolen, the driver not fully awake, and on the phone; the cyclist was listening to music, and the back brake on his bike was broken! We also learnt how to be safe on buses, tubes and the roads - a skill that will come in very handy at secondary school!

Another exciting task was how to save someone trapped in the mud of the Thames; we were taught which physical actions would be most successful in attempting a rescue. We also learnt about what to do if you're being bullied. We were lucky enough to meet the current mayor of Richmond, Clare Head and we also got a special keep safe illuminated cycle jacket and bag and some stationary. Year 6 really enjoyed the trip and all hope to use their skills for good if a problem occurs - you never know, it could save a life. We are definitely well informed and prepared citizens now. **Annabelle 6P**

ANYONE SEEN A GIRAFFE?



Whipsnade Zoo held many surprises ... including this one!

Lions of the Serengeti, the Common and Pigmy Hippo, the White Rhino, Wallabies roaming free, African Giraffes, three beautiful brown bears, Ring-tailed Lemurs, a coalition of Cheetahs ... you name it, Year 2 spotted them all! We were lucky enough to spend the first beautiful sunny day of the year at Whipsnade Zoo. With an early start and much excitement, we arrived at Whipsnade as the gates were opening. We spent most of the morning walking from field to pond to enclosure to find all the animals that we have been learning so much about in our topic 'Wild and Wonderful'. After lunch we took part in a Colour and Camouflage workshop where the children had the opportunity to investigate animals that camouflage themselves. We learnt about counter-shading, using patterns to camouflage and animals that can change colour and were given the opportunity to touch animal skins, bones and feathers. All in all, we had a fabulous day at the zoo! **Miss Seymour**

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY WINNERS

As well as animation, film editing and video game creation in ICT lessons and in clubs after school, Mr Rosenthal, forever in pursuit of digital creativity, also runs digital photography club. The influence of this club is wide reaching and as a result, this term's Photography Competition required pupils to submit a photograph which showed their local area. The winners were judged and chosen in the last week of term by Mrs Elden-Ford. Congratulations go to our Upper School winner, Thomas (6K) and our Lower School winner, Ellie (1G).



Upper School Winner,
Thomas 6K



Lower School Winner,
Ellie 1G

'EV'RY BODY WANTS TO BE A CAT', OR A 'PINK PANTHER'



On Wednesday, 21st March, children and adults gathered at St. Anne's Church for our Annual Music Soiree. It was an eclectic mix of classical, jazz and rock music, highlighting the breadth of musical talent at Kew Green. As well as the traditional guitar, recorder, flute and cello ensembles, choirs and an increasingly strong orchestra, we had a few new additions this year. Miss Hardcastle, our singing teacher, organised a close harmony group singing 'Love Shine A Light' performed by a small but perfectly formed team of Year 5 girls. Mr Cheetham, our piano teacher, directed a Jazz Ensemble playing the very cool 'Watermelon Man', performed by the Bhasin brothers, Arun on drums and



Cameron on piano, as well as Thomas E.D. on saxophone. We also heard a piano duet of Disney's 'Ev'rybody Wants to Be a Cat' by Arjun and Max. As if that wasn't enough, Miss Hardcastle and Mr Cheetham's rendition of 'What A Difference A Day Makes' left the audience

in no doubt as to the standard of musicianship typical of so many of our peripatetic music teachers. The assortment of soloists was impressive ranging from Fergus's (6P) rendition of 'The Pink Panther', to Year 3's Stanley playing a beautiful piece, 'Vals', on acoustic guitar. The finale saw a collaboration of the Orchestra and Upper School Choir playing and singing 'Land of Hope and Glory'. I think the complete showstopper was probably Lower School Choir singing 'Ragtime' with harmonies and enthusiasm!



A concert such as this would not be possible without the hard work of our peripatetic music teachers and class based teachers who are committed to spending time during the school day teaching their ensembles and always going the 'extra mile'. It is also children who have dedicated their break and lunch times to rehearsals which makes the Music Department successful. I would like to thank everyone for their efforts in making the Music Soiree a pleasure to direct! Mrs Coleman

DAVID HOCKNEY - A BIGGER PICTURE

On Friday, 2nd March, Year 5 visited the Royal Academy of Art to see the David Hockney exhibition. Not only is Hockney very much still alive and painting but he is using new and innovative techniques to create his work. One room in the exhibition is solely devoted to works which he has so skillfully created using an iPad. Other visitors in the gallery, although generations apart from our Year 5 children were, at one point, leaning in close to hear what our children had to say with regards to their own iPad drawing experience. I am sure that our children's intelligent debate taught them a thing or two! This is not the only attention Year 5 gained during the trip as several members of the public stopped us to ask which school we were from following this with an array of lovely complements about our children's attitude, behaviour and maturity. Please read the beautifully written account by Adam in 5G of his visit to the exhibition.



Winter Timber 2009, by David Hockney

Year 5 were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to go to the Royal Academy. We explored the art of David Hockney. He is considered one of the most influential artists of the twenty-first century. His work is categorised as 'Pop Art'. Being invited to exhibit at the Royal Academy is an accolade and many of his paintings were created for this purpose. A great number of his

creations were being viewed for the first time. I was particularly impressed by the immensity of Hockney's canvases. The majority of his work is inspired by nature, especially the East Yorkshire landscape. He is very adventurous with colours. For example, in one painting the vertical trees were a vivid blue, the horizontal trees were a vibrant orange and the foliage was a luscious green. In my opinion, David Hockney's art work radiates energy.

I found this exhibition incredibly inspiring. It made me feel alive to discover these paintings and pictures. For me, a memorable moment was wondering into the round room and being surrounded by the four seasons. I think this was symbolic because the shape of the room echoes the cycle of the year. The colours seemed well chosen. For example, winter was depicted mainly in grey, blue and white. Thank you Mrs Elden-Ford for making this uplifting experience possible and broadening Year Five's artistic horizons. *Adam 5G*

'INITIATIVE' - MR LOWE'S FAVOURITE WORD



Yup, I'm pretty sure they had a good time!

Hilltop was amazing! The super swing was everyone's favourite, most people went to red - the highest colour...it was a whopping 40 feet high! The big zipper was so fun, very high at the top (which was very scary!). We went zooming down the wire at a tremendous speed! The activities were extremely cool!
Stanley and Max 4K

Most people's favourite was the super swing, but that scared us out of our wits! Ours was the big zipper. Archery was great, but sadly we didn't score many points, but found it extremely fun anyway! There were night activities every night, but the best was 'Owls and Mice', it's a bit like hide and seek, only it's in the woods in the dark! *Lara and Grace 4K*

At Hilltop, everything we took part in was enjoyable! We used lots of team work and used our initiative (Mr Lowe's favourite word!). Meals were delicious and desserts were even better! Hilltop was a great experience and we will always remember it.
Louis, Josh and Christopher 4K

FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL

Following their 11+ exams, Year 6 pupils have been turning their skills to filming, animating and acting - all in French - culminating in this year's 'French Day Extravaganza'. Normally, Year 6 children will put on a play in French but this year there was a very different approach. The children made 3 short films in French and masterminded this year's French Fayre by employing their enterprising minds to come up with unique stalls from which to generate income to fund the films they have made. The films were remarkable ...



'Kew Tube News - Paris 1789'

On Monday, 27th February, 6k raised some very odd looks from passers-by going to school as we were clothed in the very latest fashions - in eighteenth century France. We were filming our documentary on the French Revolution. As we entered school, we noticed that the gates had La Bastille emblazoned across them. We at first thought this peculiar and were about to question if Mr Peck had opted to change the name of the school, when we remembered that we were filming the storming of the Bastille as it was a major part of the French Revolution. Alexander and Arun were filmed first as they were reporters for Kew Tube News. As we were outside, the filming was interrupted by planes - not something that the 1780's were known for - on several occasions. We did eventually manage to get some good takes and after that, we went back up to the classroom to revise our lines.



Thomas, Harvey and Amy were minstrels narrating on the scene of the Revolution. They spoke in French and English, which is arguably harder than just English. The idea of going out to the Green

was not greeted well by all of the class as French peasants did not wear warm clothes. In the end we trooped over and filmed the scene which, thankfully, was unaffected by planes. The

afternoon was spent filming the Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette (AKA Pratham and Loula) at their Palace (AKA the staffroom). Waiting for shots to be taken, planes to go overhead and freezing peasants aside, it was a very enjoyable day with an amazing end product to top it all off. *Alexander & Thomas 6K*

'Chef de Chef'

On Wednesday, 15th February, Year 6 filmed their French movies with real equipment to make a real film. In the past Year 6 acted out their productions as plays, but this year we have made a few short French movies filmed with real cameras! The whole film contains stories of the French Revolution, French history and cooking! My class got the chance to film French Masterchef, which we filmed at Mrs Matthews' house. The plot is about four chefs who compete for the title of French Masterchef but eventually after a complete disaster in the kitchen, the waiter ends up winning the prize money! The filming was fantastic and very funny. It was hard work, but we were all eager to do more. We did not just film with real people but with animated plasticine models as well! 24 frames or 12 pictures only makes one second of the film and we needed about 30 seconds of footage. The filming was amazing and we are all extremely thankful for all the help from Mark who showed us how to animate, Mrs Matthews (who very generously let us play football in her garden as well as use her house to film in) and Madame Thorpe-Woods, who put so much effort into organizing the filming. *Alex 6P*



So we have our first orders! Come on Chefs! You've got twenty minutes!

The Filming of 'Paris A Une Heure'

As I entered the class on the Friday we were filming. I felt half way between nervous and excited. My costume in one hand and book bag in the other, we were just about to start maths when we were called to change into our costumes. As we were waiting in our costumes for the set to be prepared in Mr Peck's office, we were practising our lines. Finally it was time. As I walked in I was blinded by the lighting for the cameras - this reminded me very much of a real filming set. When we sat on the sofa ready to film I transformed myself from a Kew Green pupil to a presenter. I remember staying there for at least an hour, filming the same scene from different angles. If we made a mistake or wanted to change things they would do another take. After our scene, we watched the other group filming their work; which was...oh! wait! You nearly caught me out for I would be spoiling the amazing French film surprise - you will have to buy the DVD and find out what it was all about! *Luca 6G*



Good evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to the One Show from Paris

ENGLAND VICTORY IN 8 NATIONS FINAL



The weather conditions in the last week of term could not have been better and on a gloriously sunny afternoon, it was once again time for our annual 8 Nations Tag Rugby Tournament. After much

deliberation, the upper school children were divided into one of the eight nations represented in our tournament. The stage was set for a very exciting afternoon, especially considering the huge amount of support from friends and family! Tag rugby is all about finding and creating space and the afternoon produced some great moments, featuring skilful passes, solid defence and bursts of speed, especially by team managers running down the touchline in support of their players.

The top two teams, Mrs Gillett's England and Mr Peck's Italy, played each other in a nail-biting final, cheered on by a gallery of pupils, parents and staff. The atmosphere was electric and as my final whistle blew, a sea of white t-shirts ran



Mrs Gillett says "Mr Peck is sulking!"

on to the field to celebrate England's victory! For many players the afternoon was bitter-sweet as it also saw the last time the Year 6 boys would play rugby at Kew Green and what a fitting end it was! Thank you to all players, supporters and staff who helped to create such a wonderful and memorable afternoon! *Mr Searle*

MR OCTOPUS MAN STRIKES AGAIN!



As always the staff v parents netball match was a fiercely competitive affair. On a particularly warm day it was a relief to both teams that they had big squads and subs were swapped in. Anna Ciprini, a former pupil now in Year 8, played an impressive last quarter as GS for the staff. It was good to see that the parents had managed to double the number of male players with two on the court this year! As always there was very stringent umpiring from Julie Enders and erm ... Mrs Gardener!

Mr 'Octopus Arms' Bradforde featured reasonably heavily for the staff and the final score was 28-19 to the staff who retain the trophy for another year. Players of the match awards went to Kate Ashcroft for the parents for being so 'cool' on court and Mrs Searle for the staff for being a 'pest'! We look forward to an equally competitive encounter next term with the annual rounders and cricket matches. *Mrs Gillett*

SECOND ANNUAL KEW GREEN CROSS COUNTRY RACE



On Saturday, 24th March, Kew Green held their second annual cross-country race for the Upper School. Glorious, warm spring sunshine made it a wonderful occasion for the 100 children who took part. Two separate races for Years 3 and 4, then Years 5 and 6, followed the same undulating route up hills, through copses of trees, across open grassy areas and finally down a steep path through the woods to the finish line in front of cheering families and supporters. Children were placed into one of four teams and every single child's finishing position contributed towards the overall team result. The effort shown by all of the children was outstanding. A special mention must go to Ruairi in 5G, who sacrificed his own chance of winning the race to stop and check on the well-being of a fellow pupil who was experiencing breathing difficulties out on the course - a true sporting gesture! The morning was thoroughly enjoyed by parents, staff and children alike and a big congratulations goes to of the individual year group winners who all showed impressive times and to the members of the winning green team! **Mr Puckle**

VICTORY IN TOUGH YEAR 5 ST BENEDICTS NETBALL TOURNAMENT



A really great win - well done girls ... and Mr Ward!

With Mrs Gillett away skiing with Year 6 and Mr Bradforde away with Year 4 at Hilltop, Mr Ward was the lucky recipient of the razor sharp Year 5 St Benedict's Netball tournament. In round 1, the girls were up against a streetwise team from Notting Hill & Ealing. Racing to a 2-0 lead within minutes, the girls realised they were in one of the toughest tournaments of the year as their opponents fought back hard. Eventually the game finished 2-2. Next came St Benedict's, a much easier match and a real

confidence booster, 8-0 to Kew. However, the huge winning margin did nothing to calm the girls' nerves who had nothing but the tournament win on their minds. The girls clocked up win after win with a determination that disguised everyone's jitters. Reaching the Semi Final with 1 draw and 5 wins, the girls won a tense 3-1 match over Chiswick & Bedford.

The final saw us take on Wimbledon Prep. The mums suddenly went very quiet. Maria, Rose and Anna, normally the life and soul of the team, suddenly went very quiet. Mr Ward, already quite quiet also went very quiet! The tough umpires of the match however were not. Whistle after whistle sounded, Maria catching the eye of a very, very strict umpire. Soon we were 1-0 down. Luckily we planned for such an event as I asked the girls before every match what we should do if we came across a strict umpire; "listen to her, do what she says and carry on!" said Camilla calmly. The team batted down the hatches and prevented any more points being scored against them. Now it was the turn of our attack, with precise determination they fought to victory. Such was their powerful performance it brought praise from all of the other coaches watching. Kew Green Year 5 Netball Team were the champions. **A very proud Mr Ward**

... and finally ...

A fabulous term buzzing with excitement and with great results from everything we have been involved in! Please refer to our new website for news articles and photos about school life, blogs from residential trips and information from the 'Friends of Kew Green'. Enjoy your well earned break and I will see you all for the Summer Term.

Jem Peck, Editor

