

Notes from KML

This week has been an important time of the year for a number of our pupils. The Scholarship examinations, trials and auditions for entry into Year 3, 5 and 7 have taken place. We have had many children from the local community wishing to come and join us. I have interviewed all the candidates and have been pleasantly surprised by their ability to chatter away.

Junior parents should have received the letter regarding the Parents evening on Thursday 2nd February. Please return the reply slip indicating your attendance.

On Friday 3rd February we will be having a Christingle service in Chapel, led by the Y6 Captains. The story of the Christingle is that there were three children, who were very poor, but wanted to give a gift to Jesus, like the other families at church were doing. The only nice thing they had was an orange, so.... if you want to know the rest of the story come along and join us at our 9.00am service. In preparation for this event the children will be bringing home a tube today. Please could you fill this during the coming week with coins to support The Children's Society who help vulnerable children? The tubes need to be returned before next Friday.

REMINDER: from next Friday a paper copy of the Rossall Reporter will only be available on request.

OPEN AFTERNOON We are holding an Open Afternoon on Thursday 29th March from 2.00pm. This will be a great opportunity for our current Pre School parents to visit the Reception class and have a talk to Mrs Senior. We hope that parents are seriously considering Rossall as an option, especially as the children are settled into their surroundings, are familiar with the teachers and enjoy the Rossall way of life. If parents have any queries please contact either Mrs Murray (01253 774228) or Mrs Lee (01253 774222)

ROSSALL ACTION is running again this February half term from 20th-24th February. Please contact Nicola Mason on 07903383836 or n.mason@rossall.org.uk for more information or to book your places. Please don't delay in booking as it is essential we have final numbers by Wednesday 15th February. Booking forms and brochures can be found at Junior School office.

CLASS NEWS

DRAGONS DEN (from Mrs Cross)

The Friends of Rossall have very generously donated some funds to Year 7 and 8 for equipment in the building and for the playground. Thank you from the tutor team and pupils.

YEAR 6 What a busy week! We have had people from Year 6 involved in scholarship exams, a swimming match, music auditions, sports trials, interviews with Dr Winkley, a hockey match and a rugby match! Students from the ISC have also visited us to tell us about Chinese New Year – Year 6 got the chance to do a dragon dance (well, more of a dragon shuffle really!) with the whole class underneath a huge Chinese dragon! We have continued working on our UOI 'Peace and Conflict' and are looking forward to our visit to the Imperial War Museum next week!

YEAR 5 Love was in the air this week as Year 5 studied Shakespeare and performed Romeo and Juliet, although no-one was keen to play the main characters! However, the class is showing wonderful maturity and ability in our play work and we have some excellent talent. The quality of work produced by pupils in our Exploration unit has been fantastic and the confidence all the class demonstrated delivering their PowerPoints on famous explorers was extremely impressive. The class has thoroughly enjoyed researching the Aztecs and have found their rituals enthralling. They can't wait to re-enact the final battle and perform some sacrificing of their own at our Gazebo Temple, so stay away from the Square on Friday afternoon!

YEAR 4 This week Year 4 visited the Lancaster Maritime Museum for a workshop about life in Viking times. We were greeted by the Viking warrior Cracai and his wife Linden who asked if we were friends or foes! Then Cracai showed us all his shields and weapons and taught us how to build a shield wall - then we attacked - it was very impressive. Later we went in the Longhouse with Linden; we learned how to use the quern stone to grind flour and how to braid. Linden told us if we Vikings didn't work, they didn't eat - so we worked really hard. It was an excellent visit and as usual our children were commended on their behaviour. We are going to write some reports of the visit, Linden has asked us to send them to the museum where they can be displayed - it was a great morning. If you are passing Year 4 classroom, you will be amazed at the fantastic drawings and models of Longships the class have made.

YEAR 3 I wondered last week how many questions 7 year olds could ask in one lesson – this week I have given up counting!

Maths has tuned in neatly with our unit and we are preparing to fit our entire solar system in our maths books!

Language work has been the best fun this week. We celebrated Burns' Night with a Burns' Supper of Haggis, Neeps and tatties, Burns' poems read by Mr Rund, Burns' songs (thankfully not sung by Mr Rund!) and some Scottish dancing. While the boys left in the afternoon fired up Braveheart style for their rugby match, the girls relaxed with some cranachan!

YEAR 2 This week in our unit of inquiry we have been looking at the traditions of a Jewish wedding. The children have seen some similarities and differences between Christian and Jewish weddings and have found it interesting looking at how people do it differently, next week we will look at Hindu weddings. In numeracy lessons we have been concentrating on multiplying and dividing by two and how this is the same as doubling and halving and counting in 2's. Some of the children found it difficult to look at a multiplication sum and work out that it was 'groups of' not add. We will be practicing more next week!

YEAR 1 This week we have been working hard to plan our play 'Monkey Puzzle' and more importantly we have now decided our parts for the play. In Maths, we have continued to work with halves and finding half of a set of objects. We have also been solving simple word problems - identifying if the sum is a subtraction or addition.

On Tuesday 3rd April at 4pm, there is a brand new show 'Tiddler and other terrific tales' adapted from the books by Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool. It would be a lovely opportunity for the children, especially Y1. Mrs Porter has secured a deal with the Grand, if there is a good number going they will do all tickets at £9 each, please contact Mrs Porter.

RECEPTION children have started celebrating Chinese New Year. We have made dragon banners and decorated a huge dragon for a parade around school in our unit of inquiry; we are enjoying stories and have listened to the story of the Billy Goats Gruff. We have painted some super trolls with fluorescent paint. We watched two versions of Goldilocks; one said and one sung. We compared the two and discussed the characters. In literacy, we have been working on the initial sounds j and g. Amelia and Tobey got married in class this week. Ben took the short service and lots of tissue paper confetti was thrown!

PRE SCHOOL have started a new Unit of Inquiry 'Everything Changes'. We are looking at the different weather conditions and what clothes we need to wear. The children have been 'cloud

watching' and they have painted some lovely pictures of the different objects they can see in the clouds.

RAINBOW we have made a 'construction area', with a workbench and tools, so we can pretend to build, hammer and fix. As our theme of 'Winter' continues, Mrs Davies made gloop in our malleable area, the children were excited as it looked like snow and they were fascinated when the gloop went from being hard to a liquid when they pick it up. We have also started a 'Family' wall display and ask those children who haven't already brought photographs of their family to do so, this is an excellent opportunity for discussion at circle time.

PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: Friday 3rd February 9.30am in the Rossall Nursery & Infant Hall for children aged 0-2. Please contact Helen Lockley if you wish to attend. Tel 01253 774278 or h.lockley@rossall.org.uk

SPORTS DESK

20.01.12 U11 Hockey v Arnold (Report by Mrs Lee)

This fixture always tends to be one of our most competitive. On a damp dismal afternoon, both teams produced some outstanding hockey, worthy of players much older. The Rossall girls demonstrated their ability to send good weighted balls across the pitch away from danger. A number of well worked pieces down the right side of the pitch from Ellie to Kathryn enabled good shots on goal to be made by Grace. Shahna worked hard in midfield together with Louisa closing down the Arnold attacks. Play was end to end with exciting moments in both goalmouths and good goals being scored. Jasmine, Hannah and Aimee were put to the test on a number of occasions. In the end the final score seemed irrelevant as both teams played at such a good standard. However, Arnold managed to the edge on the deciding winner. The final score Arnold 4, Rossall 3 with goals from Kathryn and Grace (2) an excellent game, well done to all players from both teams.

18.01.12 U12/U13 Netball v Terra Nova U12's played against a much more experienced side, and they fought hard but could not match the skill of Terra Nova, a 29-2 defeat. Megan played extremely well, and goals were scored by Jessica.

The U13's had a tough first half, but dominated the second half and were unfortunate not to win. Goals were scored by Eliza and Grace. The team displayed a promising start to this terms Netball and the final score was 16-11. Well done to all of the pupils involved.

21.01.12 U12A Boys Hockey v Denstone College (by Mr James)

The ball was moved from one side of the pitch to the other with ease and tired the opposition out quickly. When the opportunity rose the ball was played wide and up the sides, chances kept coming unable to convert. Eventually late in the first half, Bradley S picked the ball up at the top of the "D" and struck an impressive low reverse shot into the bottom left corner. In the second half with solid defending from the back three of Harrison S, Alex E and Teó, coupled with good distribution, we still looked a threat. The game finished 1-0 to Rossall. Man of the Match = Bradley G and Alex E

21.01.12 U12B Boys Hockey v Denstone College (by Mr James)

The ball was fizzing around from player to player with a great deal of accuracy. With good movement up front the opportunities in front of goal were coming thick and fast. Eventually, from a short corner the ball was struck goal bound, and Will McC was able to get a neat deflection on the ball, and divert it into the goal. Rossall had a number of chances to close the game out, Lee having a great game in attack. The game finished 1-0 to Rossall. Man of the Match = Will McC and Lee

23.01.12 St Pius Swimming Gala (Report by Mr Condon)

The Rossall swimmers were in fine form at the St Pius Invitational Gala and competed exceptionally well to finish silver medallists narrowly missing out on retaining the trophy for the fourth successive year! There were six schools taking part and the standard was extremely high. The team spirit and support for one another was fantastic and Rossall just got better and better the more they raced,

culminating in a magnificent 1st place in the Inter Year Individual Medley.

Well done to all the swimmers and a big thank you to Mrs Baines for coaching the team superbly.

25.01.12 U11 Hockey v Casterton (Report by Mrs Lee)

Rossall took time to settle into passing the ball around and using wide positions, from which to attack the Casterton goal. In the first half Rossall squandered a couple of chances of certain goals. Hard work and determination saw a goal mouth scramble be converted into a goal by Kathryn. The Rossall defense on occasions were stretched and put under pressure but good clean clearances from Aimee ensured the score sheet remained clean. Casterton began to close down on our play, pressurising the mid field players. A second goal by Kathryn ensured a Rossall victory, 2.0. This was another exciting game with tense moments. A good, victory well done.

25.01 12 U11 Rhinos Rugby v Highfield Priory (by Mr Condon)

After the disappointment of last week's match being postponed the Rhinos were raging to take the field and begin this term with a strong performance. None more so than our captain, Laurence, who is a fine leader and really rallies the team with his encouragement and passion for rugby.

The team started well, harrying the opposition from kick off and after good tackling from Ben and powerful work from Richmond, Sam and Keelan, Will jinked his way through the opposition for a fine try.

Rossall were dominant in the rucks and mauls, where Luca, Ché and Laurence were competing admirably, which created quality possession for the backline, where Daniel, Adam and Jack made space for Edward, Louis and Connor to attack. Ricky and Max, who were playing their first game of rugby for the school, were superb, relishing the physical challenge and the opportunity to run at the opposition and they both show marvellous potential. After a number of good passing phases, the backs created space for Will, who seemed to cover every blade of grass on the pitch to score his second try and take a commanding lead.

Highfield were beginning to grow in confidence with some fine attacks of their own and strong running and poor tackling from Rossall led to a well deserved try for the visitors. Highfield continued to match Rossall in all areas and the Rhinos knew they had to maintain possession and stop the dangerous counter attacks. Rossall produced their best move of the day with Adam powering through from a nicely timed pass from Ben and Keelan then barraged his way to the line for a wonderful try.

Highfield responded quickly, scoring a super try of their own to make the scores tight but Will, who was just as effective in defence as attack scored his hat-trick to finish the match 28-19 to Rossall for a fine victory. Well done Rhinos!

25.01 12 U11 Rams Rugby v Highfield Priory (by Mr Rund)

The Rossall under 9 boys had their first opportunity to play a full contact game of rugby, after a short training session the game got underway.

The Rams were the sprightlier of the two teams in the first ten minutes, with Kieran managing to score a very rapid hat-trick of tries. However, as the half went on Highfield became more confident and began to show some very good running and passing skills. This helped them get more involved in the match and they were able to go into half time on level terms at three tries each.

In the second half the Rossall boys began to display the skills they had been working on in training sessions. Joe W's tackling was impressive, as was Harry's direct running and fearless work in the scrum. It was very encouraging to see how quickly the boys were able to come to terms with the intricacies of the game, it was this understanding and the determination of all the team which helped Rossall end the game as 6-4 victors