



## Art Trip to Venice



Mr Chadwick and Mrs Plummer report: A group of Sixth Form students from St Dunstan's College and Tiffin School visited Venice during the Michaelmas exeat. The party visited all the key sites in Venice and had an enjoyable and informative experience. The party spent the first day acclimatising to Venice and its transport system – the Vaporetti – before visiting the island of Murano, famous for its glass. The second day was far more intense. The group visited the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in the Palazzo Venier dei Leoni, a famous and eclectic selection of some of the best and most famous works of 20<sup>th</sup> Century art. Students found many of these pieces interesting at least, inspirational at best as they assembled ideas for their own works. The afternoon was spent exploring the Santa Maria della Salute, a 17<sup>th</sup> Century cathedral housing some fine pieces of art before visiting the Galleria Accademia, which contains works by some of the most impressive artists in Western civilisation.

The next day the students visited the Biennale, a festival celebrating the diversity of modern art throughout the world. For many this was the highlight of the trip, as it presented and provoked them with a variety of interesting ideas. The afternoon was spent in Piazza San Marco – St Mark's Square – visiting both the Basilica and the Palazzo Ducale. The Basilica is unique in Western architecture for its combination of Renaissance and Byzantine styles. It also provides an excellent view across the piazza. The Palazzo Ducale is possibly one of the

richest buildings in the world, containing a great number of masterpieces from the Renaissance.

Tuesday was spent visiting the Giardini area of the Biennale, which houses the international pavilions of the festival. Again, students spent much of their time sketching forms and working through ideas. For many, this was a most rewarding experience. The afternoon was spent in the Museo Correr or enjoying the view from the Campanile. The following day the group visited the Ca'D'Oro followed by the Ca' Pesaro International Gallery of Modern Art, before completing the trip with a whistle-stop tour of some of the finest churches in Venice.

Venice is quite simply one of the most beautiful and inspirational cities in the world and any contemplation of its culture is time well spent. Everyone gained a great deal from this trip and can count it as a worthwhile experience. Thanks must go to Rebecca Plummer for her detailed planning of the trip, without which it would not have been as successful.

## Modern Language Society



Baykan Ozdogac reports: The most recent Modern Language Society meeting gave linguists the chance to learn about the history and cultural significance of the collapse of the de Gaulle government in France, widely known as Mai '68. Monsieur Blache, a child of this revolution, gave an insight into not the causes and effects of the student movements and protests at this time and the effective use of French as a language throughout the campaign. By way of graffiti and memorable slogans, the events of Mai '68 have become an important example of successful campaigning for liberal morality.

## German Club

Jordan Mariotti-Wood of 7I reports: The German Club which took place for the first time this year on Tuesday at lunch time was really very enjoyable. The German assistant Stephan, gave a wonderful presentation on German products. We also learnt a little bit about German speaking cultures. There were in addition, plenty of short games and

quizzes and the Power Point presentation was particularly informative. We certainly learnt a great deal! The club was stimulating, and the reward scheme was great! If pupils gave a correct response to the questions Stephan and Miss Lessem posed, they then received a variety of different German sweets such as Haribos, Kinderschokolade and many other nice goodies! There was a lively learning atmosphere in the air. I learnt a variety of things, such as how to say my name in German, how to count up to 20, and what cars are German. In conclusion, it was an informative, fun lunchtime - not to be missed. A big thanks to Miss Lessem and our German assistant, too!

## Netball

Last Wednesday the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> VII played Colfe's in two exciting games The 1<sup>st</sup> VII won 15-13.

Miss Moody reports: The 2<sup>nd</sup> VII team began the match in a positive frame of mind. With the scoring standing at 6-5 after the first 12 minutes Colfe's managed to edge into the lead and build on that advantage over the next two quarters. Special mention to Clare Skinner, who played particularly well in a WA position, and Issy Levy, who was outstanding throughout the game. Player of the Match was Penelope Regis, who as GD, encouraged calmer passing and sensible decision-making to keep possession. The girls found their feet and dominated play in the last quarter. A slight lacking of fitness contributed to the final score of 19-12 to Colfe's but it was an encouraging performance overall by the girls.

The U13A team hosted Sydenham High on Monday. The game began scrappily with neither team retaining possession well. The girls struggled to find space and each other. Janine Battis played centre for the last quarter of the game and put in a good performance. She moved about the court nicely supporting her teammates. The end score was 8-5 to SDC. It was good to get a victory but it was not particularly satisfying as the girls did not play even close to the best of their ability.

The B team took three quarters of its match to warm up. Both shooting players had attempts at goal but unfortunately the ball hit the ring. The court play improved as the game progressed and in the last quarter all the girls started concentrating, moving and intercepting. This allowed the team to pull back from 0-5 down for a final score of 6-4. Olivia Jenkins was the player of the match.

On Wednesday the U12 A, B and C teams played Blackheath High. Miss Moody reports:

This term the Year 7s have trained hard and made improved considerably. Wednesday was a fantastic opportunity for the girls to represent the school and demonstrate their proficiency. The As scored three or four goals each quarter. Special mentions to Morgan Ashley - her shooting was superb. The defence prevented Blackheath ever threatening. Player of the Match was Elyse Jones for her impressive attacking moves and skills on and off the ball. The team won 12-0. The B team built on an early lead, played a consistent game and passed sensibly. Aliya Foster deserves mention, as does Player of the Match, Jess Briggs. It was a strong performance as the final 10-2 score reflects, but the girls need to work on the accuracy and strength of their shoulder passes.

The C team put in a fantastic performance. After a nervous start the girls grew in confidence in the second quarter. They showed lovely movement down the court and Rebecca Burnett's passing at Centre was fantastic. Captain Sophie Bellenberg motivated and encouraged her team and worked extremely hard. Sophie and Thibine Tharmaraj did a great job in the circle. Hannah Weir and Rosie Sury were solid in defence. Annie Andrews and Lottie Forrester worked tirelessly. The final score was 2-0 to SDC. Well done girls.

## Basketball

Mr Freakes reports: On Tuesday the U14 mixed basketball team played KCS. The popularity of Basketball in Year 9 means the squad has expanded well over the usual 10 players. As the St Dunstan's players squared up to their opposite numbers it was clear they were all a head shorter than their markers. This physical mismatch proved crucial; despite dogged and determined drives deep from Murat Mullali especially, KCS players were able to pluck our passes from mid-air. In offence KCS used the effective tactic of setting screens for their point guard who scored several lay ups. St Dunstan's was nothing if not resolute putting up a plucky fight. Anna Denvir gave us hope with her keen awareness and confidence to drive and pass decisively; for a long while she was the only team member on the scoreboard and was the team's Most Valued Player.

## Rugby

Mr Kinnear reports: Last Thursday the U15A boys travelled to Isleworth to play the first round of the Daily Mail Vase competition. Having not played together for nearly a month, there was concern about their readiness. However, I am pleased say that, although they were a little rusty, the boys rose to the challenge in style. The team scored six tries and a conversion while denying the opposition any scoring opportunities at all. Nathaniel Johnson scored four tries and Luke Coughlan, Jordon Plummer, Kofi Bartels-Kodwo all got one. Jordon scored the conversion. Well done to all involved.

## Junior School News Natural History Museum Trip

Year 4 visited the Natural History Museum to find out more interesting facts about our 'Wild Earth'. Below are extracts from reports from Alfie Dale, James Williams, William Scard, Eoin O Sullivan, Ben Hull and Zak Hart: I quite liked the coach ride and chatting to my friends. I enjoyed looking out of the windows and commenting on whether we had been there before or if you lived down that street. I also enjoyed listening to Mr James call out your sandwich choice in a silly voice! When we arrived the guides spoke to us about the creatures carved out of stone and placed on the outside of the Natural History Museum.



Although unusual, it was a great idea to go into the shop first because it was less crowded. I bought a blue toy lizard who I called Crumbs! We went into the big earth via a tall escalator - we loved it there. We experienced a real life earthquake inside and saw how the people and animals of Pompeii died in casts of ash. This was sad.

We were given an activity book with questions we had to think about and answer. We had to look hard for some of the answers; it was challenging but fun at the same time. Lunch was tasty and we all enjoyed our lunch in the school picnic rooms. Afterwards, we had the opportunity to enjoy other areas of the museum. Dinosaurs and mammals came top of our wish list! It was amazing; the dinosaurs were huge and had scary teeth! The robotic T-Rex was very life-like. The blue whale was huge and made me feel really small. Beside the whale were giraffes, hippos and elephants as well as sea creatures - really strange sea creatures; one was called a sea cow! It was soon time to go home and we boarded the coach to travel back to school. It had been a really good day and I had learnt loads of new things and had fun with my friends.

## Shakespeare 4 Kidz Workshop

Ella Beresford-West reports on a Year 6 *Hamlet* workshop: On Tuesday morning, Year 6 had a workshop run by Shakespeare for Kidz based on the play *Hamlet*. It took place in the Great Hall. Two actors called Rose and Alan took the workshop. We started with some warm-up exercises and then went on to act out the play. I was one of the gravediggers. In the play we even included the bloody bits where people get killed. To

make the sound effect of old King Hamlet's ghost we used special long tubes that whirled around and sounded like people screaming. We dressed up in costumes which looked like they might have come from a stage production of the play (which they might do because we are going to see the Shakespeare for Kidz production of *Hamlet* later on in the term). I enjoyed the morning because it was very imaginative and we had so much fun.

Rowan Hancox has this report: Today Shakespeare 4 Kidz workshop came to SDC and showed us how to act out the play *Hamlet*. It took over two hours but it was well worth it, but then if you are taken back into a world of murder and mystery what else could it be!

The play started with a huge battle between Norway and Denmark, Denmark won and that was the start of *Hamlet*.

The actors were all supportive as they helped us act and tell the story for ourselves, they were also helpful and encouraging to everyone there. I think it is safe to say that everyone enjoyed today and would love to have them back. I am definitely sure that Year 6 will enjoy the visit to the theatre to see a performance of *Hamlet* next week.



## Rugby

The U11s played their third and final 12 a side game on Friday against DCPS C team. The boys made a positive start against a bigger and quicker team holding even sway for the first 15 minutes. They tackled with enthusiasm but DCPS recycled the ball quickly and SDC struggled to contain the endless onslaught of rucks and mauls. They did get the ball at times and worked through some pleasing phases but invariably a little knock on or a missed pass lost possession. In the second half the SDC team became tired and fell off tackles, allowing their hosts to run almost unhindered.

## Notices and Reminders

St Dunstan's College Family Society

INVITES YOU TO A

**CEILIDH**

COME & ENJOY AN EVENING OF  
DELICIOUS Scottish FOOD & DRINK  
JOIN IN THE DANCING WITH A  
Traditional CEILIDH BAND

SATURDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2007  
7.30 - 11PM IN THE GREAT HALL