



Newsletter



Vol. 17 No 15

www.sdonline.org.uk www.stdunstans.org.uk

1 February 2008

Lower School Disco



The pupils of Years 7, 8 and 9 let their hair down at the Family Society Lower School Disco on Friday. It was very loud and everyone seemed to have a great time. Meanwhile their parents enjoyed rather more sedate entertainment in the Sixth Form Common Room with wine and canapés.

Modern Languages Society

The Modern Languages Society met last week to be entertained by presentations from the three Modern Language assistants. Amanda Delacour gave a talk about her home town of Rouen in France which covered the people, culture and architecture. Spanish assistant, Amelia Garzon, gave a thought-provoking talk about the Madrid bombings in 2004 and the ensuing political response. In his presentation Stephan Bradneck explained how the Germans celebrate Carnival.

Mental Health Presentation



Frank Andrews reports: Last Friday during PSHE, Year 10 was visited by mental health specialist Dr Doku. At first we did not know what to expect, but as soon as he calmly greeted us with his deep commanding voice we were enthralled. An expert in his field, Dr Doku of the Maudsley Hospital sometimes baffled us with his extensive use of bio-socio-psychological vocabulary. But with a few broken-down explanations to help us along much knowledge was available and accessible in what was an enlightening talk.

Hockey

Last Thursday the U15A team played Colfe's. The girls have listened to, and applied, advice to develop their passing and positional play. Player of the match, Joanna Kiely, had a fantastic game in goal, preventing Colfe's from scoring right up until the last 10 minutes. Meryl Cooper, Mhairi Wyles-Lang and Megan Pryn-Petit were excellent in attack, defence and midfield respectively.

The U14s played Bromley High on Tuesday in their first match of the season. The girls played well and got into Bromley's D frequently but failed to capitalise. Sadly on one of the few times Bromley entered SDC's D it scored. The final result was a narrow 1-0 win for Bromley. Rosie Peck defended well as goalkeeper and Sally Duggan and Anna Denvir were strong in the midfield.

The U12A team played a mixed Year 7/8 Royal Russell team on Monday. The SDC girls looked more skilful but the team structure was weak. Often the girls were out of position and chasing the ball, so when they had possession they had no one to pass to. The girls dominated the first 10 minutes and Rhiana Sheth and Elyse Jones caused panic in their opponent's D. Elyse tucked away the first goal of the game but Royal Russell fought back and scored three goals. Just before the end a well-worked team effort saw SDC claw a goal back, for a narrow 3-2 loss. Hannah Llewellyn was player of the match for her great support play.

The U12B girls were a player down in their match but fought bravely. They managed to stretch Royal Russell at times forcing it to defend as well as attack. Morgan Ashley was unlucky not to score just before full time. It was a brave effort by the girls who battled to the end.

Rugby

The U12A XV game against Emanuel started well with an excellent kick off from Ben Allen and Richard Davies in hot pursuit. It was fairly equal in the forwards with both teams winning their own scrum ball. Alastair Zeffertt, Finbarr Sida-Murray and Francis Lempp showed good technique. At the lineout Harry Clements and Tom Stanley picked up some loose throws by the opposition. Alex Gould played well at scrum half. Playing up the hill is never easy and we unfortunately allowed Emanuel to score twice to be 0-12 at half time. Again SDC spent most of the second half attacking. Max Rundle was stopped twice, metres from the

line as was Alastair. Sadly on a number of occasions Caspar Davey and George Maloney were in space crying out for a pass. Jack Stimpson run strongly and caused problems. The B team game took a while to take shape but then produced some good running rugby from both teams. St Dunstan's was the first team to cross the try line but the try was disallowed for a foot in touch. However, 10 minutes later Toby Seriki scrambled over again and the try was awarded. Captain, Andrew Rodgers, then converted with a beautiful drop kick. Emanuel fought back with a converted try soon after which was the last score of the game. The boys played some fine rugby and their defence was excellent.

The U13A and B teams played St Olave's on Monday. The A team match was exciting to watch but exasperating for coach, Mr Taylor, as skilful play was matched by many mistakes. SDC scored first with a fantastic solo run from Joseph Akinlotan. Unfortunately St Olave's replied quickly in what became the pattern of the game with SDC pulling ahead only to concede soft tries. The final score was 27-29 to St Olave's. The try scorers were Joseph (two), Ben Syrett, Robert Lavelle and Jordan Daley. Michael Wilgoss kicked one conversion.

The B team lost its game 17-0 but the scoreline was not a true reflection of the match. It was unlucky not to score on a couple of occasions and had long periods of pressure. The boys stuck at it until the end and overall it was a pleasing performance considering they were rusty.

Football

The U15s made an excellent start to the season beating Bishop Challoner 3-2. Tom Compton scored the first when the keeper failed to reach a well executed cross. SDC also scored the second, but sadly it was into our own net! SDC soon made amends when Sam Bunting headed the ball off a wonderful cross from Jordan Campbell. Challoner and equalised 10 minutes before time but the boys kept their heads and Sam Bunting scored a winning goal with a little help from Malachi Connolly. Well done to all involved.

Fives

An U14 Fives team had an excellent victory over Whitgift on Monday. There were excellent performances from all involved. The team was made up of Peter Mears, Joseph Akinlotan and Conor Strutt-Clare of Year 8 and Louis Phelps, Amarr Wright, and George Howlett of Year 9.

Junior School News Tudor Day



Katie Sawers of 4F reports: In Humanities we are learning about the Tudors so on Monday we had a Tudor day and our teachers asked us to bring in a costume so we could really be like the Tudors.

First we got into our costumes; it was fun seeing everybody's costumes because they were all different. It was weird at lunch, after all it isn't every day you see the whole of Year 4 dressed as Tudors, even the teachers! We had activities all afternoon and we were put into three groups. At the end of the afternoon we went to the activities room and presented our work and ideas to the other groups. Lady Smith's group did a Tudor dance, Lady Lamar's group planned the food and Lady Strachan's group planned the entertainment. Finally King James came in and we sang two songs for him.

Prep Instrumental Concert

Musicians from Years 3 and 5 gathered on Wednesday to entertain in the Prep Instrumental Concert. For many of the Year 3 pupils this was their first ever public performance and they rose to the challenge brilliantly. There were many superb performances including impressive solos by Guy Burgess on clarinet and Celia Kristeleit on violin. Isabella Hicklin gave an excellent performance on cello of an energetic Hungarian Stomp. The evening began with a lively Calypso piece performed by the Prep strings. It ended with the Year 3 violin ensemble which played well suggesting there is lots of promising talent for the future.

Britain at War

Members of Year 6 report: Last week, Year 6 visited the Britain at War Museum in Tooley Street, next to the London Dungeons. We travelled on the train, which was fun. It is not often that you see a whole Year group of children on the train together (which some of the other passengers might think is a very good thing, too!) The trip to London Bridge did not take long and then we all made our way to the Museum.

We went into a room made to look like an old Underground station – it was where Londoners went to shelter from the bombs. We saw a film about evacuee children which was funny and sad in parts. Some children had a great time and didn't want to go home; but some were treated really badly; some never got collected by their parents at all.

There was a lot more to see and we had some worksheets to fill in which meant that everyone had to look very carefully at the information. Did you know that beer and cigarettes were never rationed during World War II? Did you know that women had to do a lot of the jobs traditionally done by men? Did you know that a Morrison shelter could accommodate five people lying down, and a lot more if you were crouched down? All this and more was revealed by the worksheets.

The most exciting part of the exhibition was when we walked through a scene from the Blitz – there was an unexploded bomb, dummies thrown around the ruins and lots of smoke and noise. There was an old police box like the Tardis and a burst water main was spraying water everywhere.

It was a great fun morning out – thanks to all the adults who accompanied us for helping to make it possible.

Maths Day



Last Thursday, the Pre-Prep was treated to a day of mathematical activities. A visiting 'mathemagical' show made the children squeal with excitement and stare in silent wonderment! In the classrooms, we engaged in challenges that stretched our brains and caught our imagination. Everyone enjoyed the day immensely and discovered how much fun maths is.

Swimming

Well done to the Prep swimming squad which performed brilliantly in last month's swimming gala against Eltham. Special mention goes to Christopher Savvas and Fiona Watt-Cooper who swam well in their first ever gala. SDC was in the lead after the individual events but unfortunately lost overall after the relays by only eight points. There were outstanding swims from Jonny Regnier, Natasha Walton and Zac O'Brien-Manley in Year 6. All of the Year 4 swimmers performed well with Callum MacLennan and Grace Hankinson standing out.

Football

On Tuesday the U9s played Laleham Leas at home. The A team lost 2-1 but the result could have gone either way. Leon Crowley scored the SDC goal. The B team also played well in a closely contested 0-0 draw.

Last Friday the U11s hosted three teams in a mini tournament. They played St Christopher's first and made an excellent start. St Christopher's scored just before half

time but the SDC team had defended very well. The second half saw St Christopher's play some excellent attacking football and two more goals followed. SDC kept their shape very well and worked hard throughout. St Christopher's are a very good team and there was no shame in the 0-3 loss. The next game was against Blackheath Prep. They play football all winter so this was a challenging encounter. The SDC team played very well and not only kept a clean sheet but also had one or two good opportunities on goal. A well-deserved 0-0 draw was the result. Finally SDC played Laleham Leas. Although the teams were well matched, the SDC defence fell apart for most of the game, allowing Laleham to score three silly goals. Tiredness and a lack of game practice showed up the side's weaknesses and a big loss looked likely. However the final five minutes were very pleasing. SDC rediscovered their shape and the game plan, allowing some good attacks. Finally Rory Burns, screaming up from left back, struck a lovely high curling shot into the top corner to record the first goal of the season! Well done but a 1-3 defeat was a disappointing result. The boys played with great composure and confidence for most of the tournament and will become a tough team to beat as the term progresses.

The U10s hosted Blackheath Prep last Thursday. The A team did not play as well as they could and struggled to keep up with a Blackheath team. Having conceded a goal in the first half, Keita Orelaja pulled one back but the visitors dominated the game and scorer a good second to win 1-2.

The B team had a more successful afternoon. They played well and had a raft of opportunities to score but in the end the winner came from an opposition own goal.

Netball

Well done to the U11 A and B teams which both recorded victories against Sydenham High on Monday. The As gave their best performance of the season passing well for a 2-1 victory. The Bs won by 5-3 thanks to some outstanding shooting from Elizabeth Tremble and Caroline O'Malley.

Notices and Reminders



Tickets for Oliver are now on sale at lunch in the lobby for the performances on Wednesday, 6 and Thursday, 7 February at 7pm. Tickets cost £5 for adults, £3 for children and £14 for a family.