

Norfolk House News

Autumn Term 2010



Norfolk House School

Visit by Steve Backshall (08-09-10)

On September 8th 2010, Norfolk House School was privileged to welcome Steve Backshall to talk to the children about his amazing adventures and explorations into the world of nature. Steve is well known to children everywhere for his CBBC television programme, 'Deadly 60', and is passionate about his subject matter of conservation and exploration. He spoke to the children for over an hour and took questions from the audience. He commented on one than one occasion that the questions were intelligently thought out and was pleasantly surprised at the in-depth knowledge some of the children have on the subject matter. He ended the session by signing well over 100 autographs, a reminder for the children of an excellent afternoon well spent.



Visit to a Hindu Temple (30-09-10)

As part of their RE curriculum studies, Year 4 visited the Hindu Temple in Handsworth to learn first-hand about certain aspects of the Hindu faith. They were generously welcomed with a feast of fruit, samosas, crisps, biscuits and drinks, followed by a tour of the temple and in depth information about a host of Hindu gods. The statues are very colourful and surrounded by gifts of fruit and money. At the end of the visit they participated in a short prayer service before receiving more gifts of fruit and heading back to school. Thanks must go to Mr. and Mrs. Jagota for organising this trip.

Craft Club

The autumn term 2010 saw the introduction of a new extra-curricular activity in the form of Craft Club. Open to children in Years 2 and 3, the club operates after school once a week. So far the members have tried sewing, felting, bead work and a range of Christmas crafts. The activities have been enjoyed by everyone and enable all abilities to participate in a relaxed, creative area of the school curriculum.



Harvest Celebrations (October 2010)

Our Harvest assembly was led this year by the staff and children of Year 2. A traditional thanksgiving service was made strangely comical by the outfits the staff and children were wearing! The day had been labelled 'Bad Taste Day' and everyone was encouraged to mix and match their clothes and try to look as ridiculous as possible. The theme had been chosen by the School Council and they had organised a vote to decide which charity the school would support this term. Help For Heroes was the benefactor and £255.32 was collected on the day. Thank you to everyone who made the effort to look daft and donated money to do so!

Year 3 Outing the Saxon Hoard (Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery)

After studying the Romans and Anglo Saxons this term, Year 3 were treated to a visit to see the much acclaimed 'Saxon Hoard' at the Museum and Art Gallery in the city centre. They travelled on public transport and spent the morning examining the exhibits and also saw other areas of the gallery where they were able to interact with the exhibits. A valuable experience for all the children to support their learning in the classroom.



Curriculum Challenge Week (15 - 19th November 2010)

This term's Curriculum Challenge Week had a Science focus. All the classes participated in a host of activities that presented a scientific topic in a cross-curricular way. Transition and Reception children were treated to a visit from the Tooth Fairy who introduced them to correct dental hygiene practices, Years 1 and 2 visited Thinktank to participate in workshops related to forces and construction. Classroom Medics came to school for Years 3 and 4 and using a host of high tech medical machinery, the children were able to measure their blood pressure, heartbeat, strength of throw and pull, as well as learning how to resuscitate a life size model of a human being (aka Stanley).

Curriculum Challenge Week (15 - 19th November 2010)

Years 5 and 6 were fortunate to be able to participate in an Electric Lego Workshop. They were given the opportunity to build a city out of Lego, complete with trains, buildings and roads, all cleverly illuminated using electric circuits and a host of batteries.



Party Day (10-12-2010)

The whole school was in party mood on Friday 10th December 2010. The children came dressed in their party finery and enjoyed an interactive performance of 'The Snow Queen' by the Story Teller's Theatre Company. A party lunch and, of course, a visit from Santa made it a perfect start to the Christmas season.

Christmas Bazaar, Performances and the Book Fair

The School Council, and Miss Huckerby, helped by several keen parents organised a very successful Christmas Bazaar for the children on December 13th. There were games, face painting, toys and prizes galore, together with goody bags and cakes for everyone. The whole afternoon raised over £300 for Help For Heroes.

Transition performed 'Tinsel' for their parents. They sang really well and looked beautiful in their costumes. Well done Transition.

As the end of term drew nearer, the school also hosted a book fair, with books for sale that were suitable for all ages and interests. The school benefits from these book fairs by receiving a percentage of the sales in commission which is always spent on new books for the school library and the classrooms.

