



# Primary School Newsletter

29 September 2017

## Year 6 Paschendale Workshop

On Thursday morning year 6 took part in the 'Passchendaele at Home' workshop run by Virginia Crompton (Kathleen's mum) to commemorate the centenary of the battle of Passchendaele during the First World War. First, students were told about the battle of Passchendaele, also known as the battle of mud, which happened in Belgium 100 years ago.

Students really enjoyed the workshop and produced some beautiful wreaths and moving writing. Year 6 intend to follow this workshop up by finding a local soldier who died in the battle and lay the wreaths (we made during the workshop) at their grave to show our respects. Students were then split into 3 groups: making wreaths, writing reflective poetry and letters about the battle; and learning how to research soldiers who lost their lives in the battle using the internet.

Mr Spencer

## Dates for your diary

### October

- Wed 4—Year 5 and 6 Shakespeare workshop
- Thur 5—Year 5 Sir John Soane's Museum 9.15 - 1.00pm
- Fri 6 — Y6 assembly 3pm
- Fri 13 — Harvest Festival, Secondary MPH - 9am  
Individual pupil photos same day
- Tues 17 & Wed 18 — Parents evening 3.50 - 6.10PM
- Thur 19 — Last day of half term for pupils
- Fri 20 — INSET day
- Mon 30—Start of second half term

### November

- Tues 7—Y5 & 6 Millfield Theatre trip 11.00 - 1.00pm
- Fri 10—Year 2 class assembly - 3pm
- Fri 17— Y1 class assembly—3pm
- Fri 24- Year 5 class assembly - 3pm
- Wed 29 - Flu vaccine Rec, Y1, Y2, Y3 & Y4

### December

- Fri 1 - Y4 class assembly—3pm
- 8 December Y3 class assembly—3pm
- 14 December Christmas Show, Cinderella

Wreath making



The beautiful finished wreath

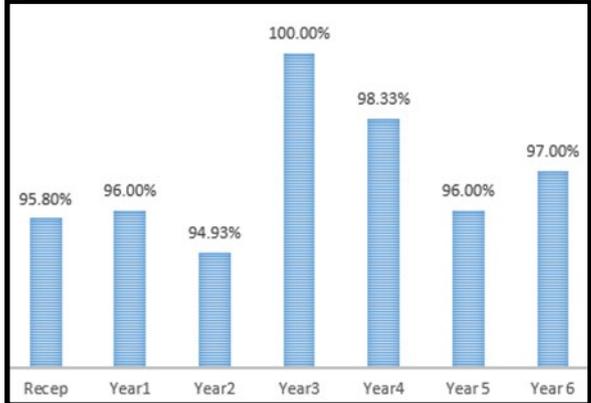
Poetry inspired by the battle

Cries of death echo through the trenches,  
Stench of rotten bodies fills the air.  
Another day of shooting passes by.  
The reasons why we're here  
Sometimes escapes us,  
Laughter and joy are  
Strangers in this hell on earth!

### Upcoming PTSA Annual general meeting

The PTSA AGM will now be held on Thursday 12 October at 7:30 pm in the secondary school (Liverpool Rd entrance). Please come along to meet parents, elect class representatives etc, and map out activities and fundraising for this school year. All welcome!

Last week's attendance figures



### **Parking**

Reminder to all parents and families to park legally and with consideration for all in our school community.

Recently parents have reported parking which makes it dangerous for children crossing the roads.



**Year 6 Class assembly** will start at **2.50pm** rather than 3pm next Friday in the school hall.

### **SMMA Secondary school tours**

Year 6 parents and children are invited to join SMMA secondary school tours and open evening.

Mon 2 & Wed 4 Oct—Secondary transfer morning tour—prompt 9am start

Thu 5 Oct—Secondary transfer open evening 5.30—8pm with Headteacher talks at 5.45, 6.30 and 7.15pm

In weeks' assemblies, **Ms Luzmore** read 'The Giving Tree' and we discussed how altruism is good for ourselves and others.

**Rev April** began a sequence of assemblies on brave men and women of the Bible and told the story of Joshua and his resilience—turning the impossible into the possible.

### **Year 5 and 6 Boys Football**

Lynn took our boys football team out twice this week to compete—full match report and photos coming next week!

### **Message from Chair of Governors**

Dear Parents/Carers,

For several years the Academy and our associated special school The Courtyard have been members of the St Mary Magdalene Education Partnership Trust. At its meeting in July the Trust Board decided it no longer had a role to play in the governance of the schools and will cease to operate. This means that the Courtyard and the Academy now exist as their own distinct organisations. They will continue to have a very close operational relationship. We are sure that the relationship will continue to flourish and this change will not materially alter the day to day operation of our schools.

Paul Hollingum has been at the Academy since 2006. He served as the Principal when we opened in 2007 and then became Executive Director of the Trust in 2012 as we expanded and established The Courtyard. Paul took the decision to retire as Executive Director in August but, I am delighted to say, will continue to provide consultancy work for us to the end of this year.

After a distinguished 40 year career in education, Paul has shared his wisdom and experience, directing and supporting the leaders of the three schools to create such exciting, ambitious, caring and high achieving institutions as well as places that take pride in the range of opportunities they offer pupils and the concern they show to every individual who works or studies in them. His legacy is vast and impressive.

There will be opportunities later in the term to pay full tribute to Paul's contribution and I am sure you will join me and the Governors in thanking him for his remarkable work and wishing him well for what I am sure will be a busy and fruitful next stage in his life and work.

Yours faithfully



Mr A Caspari  
Chair of Governors