



Airthrie News Summer 2011

Osmington Bay, Dorset Year 6 Adventure and Study Trip

Friday 10th June saw our Year 6 pupils setting off for their residential PGL field trip. The children had an action-packed long-weekend: testing their head-for-heights with the very high zip-wire; trampolining; rock climbing; and walking (whilst studying the geology) the breathtakingly scenic walk from Durdle Door (where there was time for a "chill-out" on the beach) to Lulworth Cove.

The trip, which, for some, was the first time they had spent nights away from their families, was also a personal growth-enhancing time (despite the torrential rain on Sunday!).



THANK YOU

children and teachers for your contributions to our newsletter.

Have a wonderful break - see you back at school on **Thursday 8 September**

Following is a review of the 3-night activity break by Elspeth and Phoebe.

Our Weekend at Osmington

My first impression of Osmington was the size and I had no idea it would be that close to the sea. I didn't think I would ever see a view THAT SPECTACULAR in old England. We soon got settled into chalets. Our little rooms had 4 beds and a bathroom. They were a little bit on the small side but were very cosy and were nice and toasty warm at night.

The first night I couldn't sleep because one of my room-mates had a sugar rush and we were talking about girly topics. The food at Osmington was 'DELUMPSCIOUS!' They had all my favourite foods and meals every day we were there.

Saturday was our 2.5 mile walk from Durdle Door to Lulworth Cove. We learnt all about different rock types and coastal formations. Durdle Door was fun. We looked at the arch. PGL taught us about the formations and provided us with a packed lunch which we ate after a long walk (the teachers said it was 25 miles long but it was only about 2½!). After lunch we went to Lulworth Cove and the shop. Everybody had an ice-cream, kindly bought for us by the school.

On Monday we had breakfast and went off to do some trampolining, so half of our breakfast came up but "Oh well!". We then did zip wire. It was the most flamboyantly exhilarating thing to have ever done!

It was soon time to go home. BOOOOOO!!!!!! (Although we were all a little bit glad to be going home.)

by Elspeth Proudlock and Phoebe Cave

Summer Fayre

Our annual Summer Fayre took place on Wednesday 22 June and despite a couple of very heavy downpours we still managed to have fun in the garden.

We were rather impressed with those pupils who set-up and managed their own stalls (displaying some rather inspiring business acumen in the process!)



Special thanks for the home-made cakes baked for our magnificent (as always) cake stall and, also, to those who donated fabulous prizes for our ever-popular raffle.

Beau's Bears and the Fruit and Veg stall were significant contributors to the grand total - together we raised over **£1486**. THANK YOU!



Summer Concert

For those of you who missed it (where were you?) Wednesday 29 June was 'Pirate' day at Airthrie School as we went 'Over the Ocean' and 'Under the Sea' for this year's summer show.

The costumes were wonderful (thank you parents), the singing and acting was superb (well done children) and the whole performance was a great success (breathe again, staff, and breathe again...).

Congratulations to everyone for a truly ship-shape show that was *nautical but nice!* Mr Medhurst



Keeping you in Suspense ...

There was a chill in the air. It was supposed to be a summer's day but the sky was strangely dark. The wind was whistling through the trees whispering faintly to the children. Pitter patter, pitter patter; the first raindrops fell. The mood was changing. As the rain lashed against the window the children knew things would never be the same again. What had changed?

The children in Cedar were about to learn how to create suspense in their stories. Here are some of their ideas.

Deep, deep under the sea it was calm but on top a storm was brewing. Just then an angry voice echoed. What was it? Where was it coming from? by Claudia

I was breathing hard as my legs felt very heavy. I could see a small figure with strange hair and skin. But he wasn't alone...there were lots of them! by Freya

Daisy felt a tugging on her leg. She was pulled down. Nell grabbed her but they went down...down...down. They were dragged into a damp, spooky, gloomy cave. A dark figure came out of the shadows. by Nell

Music Event – Cheltenham Ladies' College



On Wednesday 15th June Oak, Alder and Poplar attended an inspiring morning of singing at Cheltenham Ladies' College, culminating in a short performance. Even the staff learned to sing!
Mrs Trembath

"I thought the songs were brilliant," *Millie Graves*

"I loved the song 'Orrible little blue eyes. Blue eyes rock!!" *Abigail Fulford*

"Absolutely awesome." *Alex Willerton*

"The blue eyes were cool!" *Sebastian Whitman*

Nature in Art



Form Beech had a fabulous day at Nature in Art at Twigworth on Wednesday 6 July. The children collected natural artefacts from the garden in-between the amazing garden sculptures and made their own wire sculptures.

They had a chance to look around the museum and also visited the resident artist.

They had a glorious picnic lunch in the beautiful gardens and played on the adventure playground before crafting a colourful wire flower (pictured).



Primrose Vale Fruit Farm



Form Ash had a strawberry-licious time on Friday 1 July at Primrose Vale Fruit Farm. The pupils had fun picking their own fruit and 'sampling' many of the berries - just to 'check for quality' you understand!



Fireman Adrian and his Fire Engine

With sirens blazing, Fireman Adrian visited form Beech with his fire engine on Monday 13 June. The children had the opportunity to climb in the engine, try on the very heavy helmets and spray the hose. The experience was informative and interesting as well as being good fun. Some extracts from their thank you notes are below.



"I enjoyed squirting water out of the hose. I enjoyed putting the helmet on as well. I loved the siren going off. It was SO loud!" *Daisy Mason*



"When we were inside the classroom I liked the bit when we talked about fire." *Georgia Turner*

"It was fun when we tried the hats on and the hat that I tried on was really heavy. When we squirted the tree the birds got wet." *Maddie Jones*

"After we put the hats on my head hurt because they were so heavy." *Lucy Brookes*

"I liked it when we got to see the sign that showed where the water was in the road. It was so noisy when you turned on the siren." *Emma Miller*

Certificates of Achievement, Endeavour and Merit

Certificates have recently been awarded to:

Achievement	Endeavour	Merit
<i>Millie Graves - Form Alder</i> <i>Indigo Butcher - Form Alder</i>		

Poetry Corner

*Summer is the time that sweet-peas climb
Winter is the time that snow-drops fall
Spring is the time that bluebells smile
I love the flowers, the seasons too
Flowers, bushes, trees
But earth is the "special-ist"
And us too.*

by Georgia Speakman, Form Ash



Forest Picnic

On Thursday 7 July all forests joined together to share a picnic lunch in the garden (giving us a chance to try out the new savoury Chelsea buns made by our cooks).

This was an end-of-term opportunity to say 'goodbye' and 'thank you' to our Year 6 members who are moving on to new schools in the autumn.

Mrs Derounian



Thinktank Birmingham Science Museum

On Thursday 7 July form Cedar visited Thinktank in Birmingham. They were able to experience lots of hands-on science displays and attended an interactive lego workshop.



Mini-mad Monday – Rendcomb College



On Monday 4 July Year 5 enjoyed a fun-filled day at Rendcomb College. They began with a Picasso art session where they studied his life and drew a picture in his style. Next, the children visited the 'Forest School': they completed several activities including making a natural collage, playing sound bingo and making their own perfume. The final activity was a sensational samba session where the children had the chance to play samba instruments - concluding with a samba parade. A wonderful time was had by all.

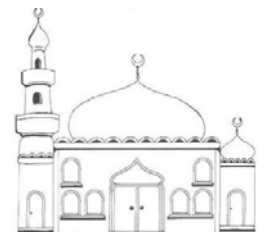
Miss Cook

Visit to Cheltenham Mosque

On Friday 1 July Year 4 pupils visited Cheltenham Mosque in the Lower High Street as part of their studies into different religious buildings. *Katie Miller, form Larch* has written a review for us below.



"When we went in we had to take our shoes off before we entered. The female teachers wore scarves around their heads as a sign of respect. The first thing we did was go to the prayer room (there are 2 prayer rooms because sometimes the mosque gets crowded with people) but we only went to the downstairs one. It had a green carpet with little sections that you could sit in which faced towards Mecca (a place in Saudi Arabia). We saw the wash room where the Muslim people wash before they go to pray. Asif (who showed us around) and his son Mu'az are pictured right.



Home-made Board Games



Cedar children were given a challenge to design and create a mathematical board game for 8 year old children.

They were encouraged to ask themselves:

- How do I include maths in my game?
- How will players move around the board?
- What activities can be included?
- What rules and instructions will they need?



The results were amazing. The games were imaginative and creative and the children enjoyed experimenting with each other's games. Well done Cedar children. *Mrs White*

Cheltenham Science Festival



Alder and Poplar on their way to and at the Cheltenham Science Festival on 7 June. Picture left shows the pupils investigating what happens when wire wool is burned - the children had to decide whether it would be heavier or lighter*.



We attended a hands-on session dissecting flowers and observing each part under powerful microscopes and also attended a lecture on how sound is made and heard. A wonderful combination of scientific bangs, challenges and goo! *Mrs Trembath*

(*Answer (just in case!): heavier)



Rounders

v Sir Thomas Moore School, Tewkesbury

Due to other school fixtures we have only played one rounders match this half-term. On Thursday 16 June the school rounders team travelled to Sir Thomas Moore School in Tewkesbury. Sir Thomas Moore fielded a Yr 5/4 team so Airthrie **won by 23-8½**. We hope to have a re-match on Thursday 7 July - so keep practising. *Mrs Green*

Cricket

The first cricket practices of term were played in glorious late spring weather. The keen reactions of all the juniors was a joy to see. It was a perfect start to the season, as the school would certainly need a committed and reliable squad of players.

Our 'A' team captains, Callum Johnston and Dillon Clarke were ever present throughout all matches and proved to be strong team leaders. Eddie Gayler, Bob Tharme, Mattie Park and Sam Rhodes were supported by a keen squad, which included half a dozen promising Y5 children.



The cricket played was extremely competitive, every fixture resulted in close finishes. We lost by the odd run to St Edward's, Richard Pate's and Berkhamstead. The matches were very close and gave a real education to the children, as the team learnt how to score runs sensibly and bowl more accurately.

We entered the Cheltenham District Primary Schools' tournament at Cheltenham Cricket Club on June 30th. The team entered full of ambition, however our first fixture was against St Edward's 'A' team. Our team was well beaten, even though Dillon and Callum performed ably and sensibly with both bat and ball.

However, this gave us the opportunity to enter The Plate competition. Our first fixture was against Leckhampton Primary. The scores were equal as the teams entered the final over, however, we won the match effectively when Dillon hit a six off the penultimate ball, ensuring Leckhampton could no longer catch us!

Therefore, Airthrie were due to play St Edward's in the final. The excitement had been growing as St Edward's were restricted to a score of 225. Our batters steadily built a challenging total until the play reached the final over. The scores were unbearably close and as the last ball was bowled, Callum prevented a wicket from falling, **so Airthrie have become the 2011 Cheltenham District 'Plate' Champions**. This was an excellent achievement against schools of far greater size.

A very enjoyable season was had by all. Well done, everyone.

Year 4/5 Cricket

During the last week of term our Y4/5 team played Richard Pate School Y4/5. It was a very enjoyable match with some promising batting shown by Alex Willerton, Harry Brookes and Andrew Walker. Airthrie batted first and scored a positive score of 38 runs. The children are developing their bowling skills but persevered well against Richard Pate's batters and reduced their score to positive 29.

Airthrie's cricket is showing strength in depth!!

Mr Wright



Tag to Twickenham South West Regional Finals Taunton 22 June 2011

It was an early start with grey cloud and heavy rain down the motorway. Such was the weather at Taunton on our arrival that play was suspended for a short period of time.

When we did start to play we were in a group of 5 in the morning and played 4 games.

We then progressed through to the afternoon session where we encountered strong opposition from teams from all over the south-west region. Despite our valiant efforts we did not come away with a trophy this time! All of the players (boys and girls) played exceptionally well in this challenging environment - there were tries from the girls and a good all-round performance by everybody...and thank goodness the sun came out in the afternoon! *Mr Harrison*

The Infant Swim Gala was held on Wednesday 15 June at Cheltenham Ladies' College.

There were some very exciting races and it was wonderful to see how much all of the children have improved.

All swimmers have recently been awarded their certificates. We had a lovely time - well done to you all! *Mrs Wilshaw*



Swimming Gala v St Edward's

On Tuesday 14 June 30 pupils from Airthrie School travelled to St Edward's Junior School for a 'Friendly' Swimming Gala. Pupils from Years 4, 5 and 6 participated in this event with Individual Races for Years 4, 5 and 6 Boys and Girls as well as a Freestyle Relay and a Medley Relay.

All pupils swam exceptionally well with individual wins for *Indigo Butcher* (Yr 5), *Phoebe Cave* (Yr 6), *Bob Tharme* (Yr 6), and *Catie Miller* (Yr 4).

The Year 4 Girls' Freestyle and Medley Relays also gained a 1st place. Although we came **2nd overall** all the swimmers thoroughly enjoyed some very close competition (next year our diving will have improved!!). *Mrs Green*

Tuesday Gym Club - Cedar Girls

Jessica Hedley, Beth Wiltshire, Angel Phillips, Lucy Warr, Elisa Griffiths, Sophie Edwards, Sophie Moulder, Freya Coull, Maia Butcher and Nell Jones worked hard to perform a gymnastics display to their parents, grandmothers and sisters on Tuesday 21 June.

They were a credit to themselves demonstrating their gymnastic movements and disciplined approach. Jolly well done. *Miss Donnelly and Mrs Drury.*



Sports' Day

Sunny Monday 11 July was the occasion of our Sports' Day (postponed from rainy Friday 8 July!), held on the Cheltenham Ladies' College field. Our thanks go to Lisa Maxwell who carried out her 'duties' impeccably as our guest of honour!

Well done to all children for their superb sporting effort and many congratulations to the winners listed below. Thank you parents for coming along at such short notice to support your children and to the large number of you who ran in the parents' races - we are truly impressed!

Long Distance Challenge Winners					
Girls	1 st	Caitlin Marshall	Boys	1 st	Callum Johnston
	2 nd	Indigo Butcher		2 nd	Mattie Park
	3 rd	Poppy Ellams		3 rd	Sam Rhodes
Sprint Medal Winners					
Girls	1 st	Isabel Millward	Boys	1 st	Callum Johnston
	2 nd	Shannon Phillips		2 nd	Dillon Clarke
	3 rd	Esme Smith		3 rd	Mattie Park



Dance Extravaganza

On Friday 24 June our dance club pupils put on a performance for parents and friends. A delightful show. Congratulations to all who took part.

Thanks to back-stage crew - Miss Claire Cook, Miss Katie Duckworth, Miss Susan White, Carissa Cullen, Shannon Phillips and Beau Jessup.

Thanks to Lolly Dickens and Hennie Rawson (musical directors) and finally a special thanks to Mr G Williams who was our most excellent stage manager. *Miss J Chidzoy*



Congratulations to:

Harry Brookes – Gloucestershire Naturalists Society – shortlisted and awarded free membership for one year after entering a winning photograph of a muntjac deer.

(Parents – if you would like us to include details of an award your child has achieved in an extra-curricular activity please either e-mail the school or drop a note into the office)

Year 6 Leavers

Oak pupils will enjoy a Leavers' Barbeque and rounders on Monday evening, 11 July. An anticipated time of joy and sorrow!

Second-hand School Uniform

We are always happy to receive second-hand uniform - please leave it in the office or with parent helpers Mrs Cambridge/Mrs Waterman.

Our next sale will be on Wednesday 7 September in the school hall. It will start at 2:00pm and will end promptly at 3:00pm.

Please, should you buy named second-hand uniform, it is very important to put your own child's name in the garment as there is much confusion caused by a child wearing a garment with an incorrect name! Thank you.

Guitar Club

The children will be entertaining their families in the garden after school on Monday 11 July at an informal concert. They have been practising hard and we are looking forward to seeing how much they have progressed over this year.

Well done to you all! *Mrs Whichelo*

Chess Club

We are still hoping to find someone to run our chess club. If you, or a friend or relative, would be willing to take this on, please contact the school office for further details. Many thanks

Free to good home

Our ducklings are growing rapidly and we will need to re-home them soon. If you feel you would be able to offer one or more of them a good home please contact the office. Thank you.



Advertisements



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To help keep school records up-to-date please complete the form below and return to the school office if any of your contact details change. Thank you.



Child's name:	Address:	
E-mail:	Tel No (mobile/home/emergency other):	
Any other details:		