

Amesbury Newsletter

Week 4 Michaelmas 2017

29 September 2017

Year 8 Residential to Wales 2017



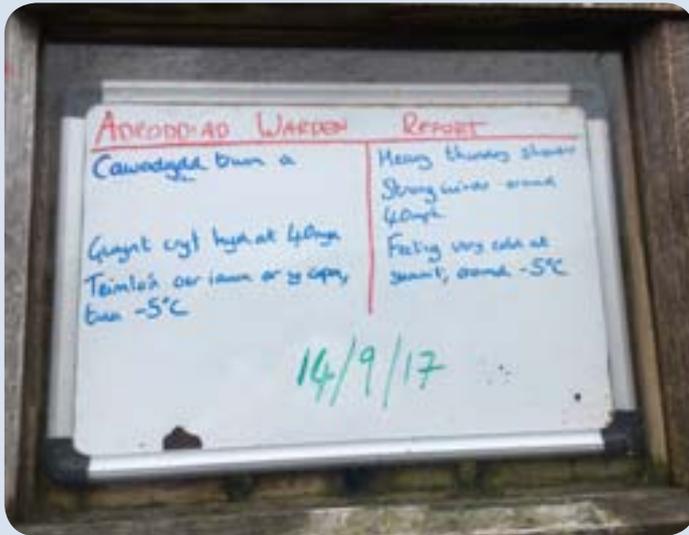
Once again, with the coming of the new academic year, the Year 8 Geographers were whisked off to our annual expedition to Snowdonia National Park, North Wales.

Our field trip kicked off with the slightly antisocial meet time of 6:35am and with the minibuses loaded to bursting with bags, wellies, chocolate digestives and other assorted items we headed for the Land Rover factory at Solihull. Here we were welcomed with a tour of the factory, including viewing how Land Rovers and Jaguars alike are constructed from beginning to rolling off the production line 3 days later. After lunch the world of logistics became very real as Year 8 moved products around the world in a monopoly-esque board game, with many children, including Miss Stuttford achieving global domination!

Heading for Wales after Birmingham took a 'little' longer than it might have normally done. No complaining and lots of car spotting (and biscuits) eased us through the jam, and we arrived 2 hours late, but more than ready for a hearty lasagne.

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Year 8 Residential to Wales 2017



Day 2 saw a little rain, followed by lots of rain, though somehow we managed to measure Sites 1 and 2 in the dry and the sun almost shone. With Site 2 completed by lunch, we headed back to the hostel for jacket potatoes and fieldwork write-ups. Chef Alesbrook dominated the afternoon with his welsh cake 'bake-off', including stirring the ingredients the 'traditional way' (with a carrot). Some slightly 'crisp' attempts later and Sous-Chefs Balcombe and Toynton had readied up early evening snacks.

Wednesday was wet. So much so that the normally calm Site 3 had transformed to a raging torrent too deep and fast to measure. Despite the children showing interest in floating downstream, we sketched and then began the mental preparation for the zip wires! The slate mines continue to fascinate both in terms of spectacle and working conditions for children during Victorian times. The zip wiring was once again superfast and slightly competitive, and with 4 heading off at the same time there was equal amounts of heckling and laughter.

Thursday was wetter. This coupled with a slightly broken minibus meant we had a superb hike up Snowdon, being beaten (as so many famous climbers have been at times) by time and weather. As much a part of any Geography trip was the traditional visit to Pete's Eats, where we were well looked after and well fed.

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Year 8 Residential to Wales 2017

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A fabulous week was had by all. My sincere thanks to all the staff for giving up their time and for the occasional prank. Lastly to the children who were brilliant from beginning to end.

Mr Martin Gibb, Head of Geography



Year 5 Trip to The Natural History Museum



Earthquakes, Volcanoes, Art!

Geography

Year 5 headed off to the Natural History Museum to begin their Tectonic Processes topic in fine style. Once there, having been greeted by the splendour of the blue whale, we headed towards 'Earthquakes and Volcanoes' to investigate the tectonic processes which shape our world. Ascending the elevator through the globe, the children began to investigate where the main Earthquakes and Volcanoes occur in the world, as well as looking at some specific case study examples, including the recent Tohoku earthquake and tsunami. The Geographers then studied differing volcano types, how seismologists predict (can they?) earthquakes, what a safety kit might look like and were shaken by the Kobe earthquake supermarket.

Mr Martin Gibb, Head of Geography



Year 5 Trip to Natural History Museum

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Visual Art

Honing their observational drawing techniques, the Year 5s turned their Geographical minds to sketching and studying the wealth of flora and fauna on exhibit making detailed sketches. They explored the bugs, beetles and insects in the Darwin Centre's Cocoon and at the Creepy Crawlies gallery. This was a great start to their new Art project, which involves studying the shape, details and texture of beetles through drawing, collage and sculpture.

Miss Claire Munro, Art Teacher



Year 3 Pirate Show



If learning the ropes of moving up to the Prep School wasn't enough for Year 3, this year they had an additional challenge. Could they put on an entire show in just a week? The answer was a resounding yes!

Created just for them, *Pirate Wars!* involved every child singing, dancing and acting and they did a brilliant job. Thank you for your hard work Year 3, and congratulations on a hearty performance.

Mrs Anya Phillips, Head of Drama



Year 3 Ancient Egypt Day



Howard Carter arrived at Amesbury during the week to help Year 3 pupils examine the tomb of King Tutankhamen. On their journey they learnt about life in Ancient Egypt including some of the gorier details of mummification!

Choosing a wife for a Pharaoh seemed to be a bit hit and miss! Pupils had to make decisions on topics such as pyramid building, how many days to work and how to reward the workers – sadly, chocolate was not an option in Ancient Egypt!

Examining some of the artefacts from the tomb helped the pupils appreciate the wonders of the treasures from the tomb.

A great time was had by all.

Mr Max Tribe, Year 3 History Teacher

Year 7 Residential to France 2017



The French Trip for Year 7 pupils to the Château de la Baudonnière was once again a great success with its mix of culture, History, French language immersion and activities. After an early departure on Sunday morning and a smooth crossing, we arrived tired but very excited at our destination. The rain and chilly weather didn't dampen the mood and fun was had by all. The pupils were fantastic throughout, giving everything a go. We crossed the bay in a record-breaking hour and a half (at least a 2 and a half hour walk normally) due to the poor weather conditions but nobody complained and instead had a lot of fun in the quicksand. On a daily basis, the staff complimented the children on their polite manners and positive attitude; they truly were a pleasure to be with.

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Year 7 Residential to France 2017

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Bread-making, climbing, an obstacle course, cider-tasting, working on the mini-farm, archery, aeroballe, a visit to a goat's cheese farm are some of the activities the children took part in during our busy and enriching week in Normandy. A huge well done to Year 7s who really gave their very best effort to all activities and showed resilience and independence and also a big thank you to my colleagues and the staff at the Château for making this trip one they will always remember.

Mme Magali Nicol, Head of Modern Languages



Early Years Garden Party



The formal opening of Amesbury's new Early Years Playground provided an excuse for Garden Party last Thursday, and in spite of the wind and the rain parents braved the elements, and enjoyed watching their children play, the homemade cakes and a hot tea. Jackie Collyer Amesbury's Head of EYFS said 'The investment in the new play area for our Pre-Nursery, Nursery and Reception children gives us a beautiful new garden area, which is safe, stimulating, designed to inspire the imagination, develop coordination and encourage collaboration.'



Week beginning 2 October - Events

MONDAY 2

9:00 AM-3:30 PM

Year 2 - Visit to Winchester Great Hall

WEDNESDAY 4

8:15 AM-9:15 AM

SHU Shop Open

1:30 PM

U10 A & B Cranleigh Netball Tournament * (Away)

2:00 PM

U11B Westbourne House Netball Tournament * (Away)

2:15 PM

U11 A & C Netball v The Royal * (Home)

2:30 PM

1st & 2nd Football v Barrow Hills * (Home)

2:30 PM

U11 A,B,C Football v Barrow Hills * (Home)

3:00 PM

U10 A,B,C Football v Barrow Hills * (Away)

3:30 PM

1st & 2nd Netball v Bohunt *(Away)

THURSDAY 5

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Open Morning

2:30 PM

U9 A & B Football v Barrow Hills * (Away)

2:30 PM

U9 A & B Netball v PGS * (Home)

2:30 PM

U8 A,B,C,D Football v Barrow Hills * (Home)

2:30 PM

U8 A,B,C Netball v PGS * (Away)

FRIDAY 6

4:15 PM-4:40 PM

Year 7 & 8 Choral Evensong *

Trade with **your** community

Buy or sell anything, from a bike to a house.

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