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Holy Trinity International Prep News

Samuel Pepys is alive!

Hartlebury Museum

This half-term Year 2 have been investigating the Great Fire of London as the historical component of the inquiry into 'Materials and how they change with heat and fire.' On Tuesday they visited Hartlebury Museum where they 'met' the famous 17th century diarist Samuel Pepys. They were able to discuss with him what it was like to witness the Great Fire first hand. In addition, he explained the secret code in which his diary had been written and the children were thrilled to write in this code using quill pens. They then used historical maps of London to locate landmarks which were damaged or destroyed in the Great Fire. They made a human chain and used a leather bucket in a vain attempt to quell the fire. They made origami boats to escape from the fire on the River Thames but the highlight of the day was the experiments Samuel Pepys performed to explain why the fire spread so rapidly and was so catastrophic. The children watched in awe as he first created an exploding flour cloud (which could have been a possible cause of the fire). As a finale he created a fire tornado to show how the fire would have spun and whirled through the streets of London sucking in everything in its path. A very exciting trip or as Isabelle Neill wrote in her thank you letter '...the very very best trip I have ever been on.'



The Jungle Book Revisited

On Thursday afternoon Ellen from the Birmingham Stage Company led a very entertaining drama workshop. Ellen has previously acted in and directed The Jungle Book. She went through some warm up exercises including mirroring Kaa's snake-hypnotising moves to music and voice manipulation using breathing techniques. The pupils then learnt The Jungle Boy rap with actions. To end the session the pupils went through various auditions to participate in our very own Jungle Book. Congratulations to Cecilia (Mowgli), Zeb (monkey), Ewurama (Bagheera), Josh (Kaa), David (Tobacca) and Nana (Shere Khan).





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Inventor or innovator?

On Monday afternoon, two inventors from Birmingham Inventors Club came to speak to Years 3,4,5 & 6. It was a fascinating session as the inventors outlined to the pupils the difficulty of getting an idea to market. The pupils learnt the meaning of technical words such as patents and royalties. Tony explained that there was a difference between inventing something new as compared to improving an existing item. He showed the pupils his various innovations including dice shakers that would stop the dice knocking board pieces over. He also suggested several ideas to improve road safety and awareness – firstly he would change the shape of traffic lights to help people who suffer from colour blindness (red & amber lights would be triangular) and secondly install 'blue waves' on lamp posts which would inform drivers of emergency vehicles travelling behind them. Currently these ideas have not been taken up by the Highway Agency.

Year 4 pupils are busy making their inventions—hopefully they will be in working order by the end of the week!



Tasting time!

This week Year 6 pupils took part in a tasting session organised by Emily Hewitt (Year 13). As part of her project work, she has been looking at how to make snacks and lunch boxes more healthy. Following a short questionnaire, Emily created her own sugar-free snacks. These included fruit jelly, banana oats bars, fruit biscuits and honey cake. The pupils gave excellent feedback to Emily on which recipes they enjoyed and suggested possible alternatives. The fruit jelly was popular throughout as was proved by the fact that they didn't leave any jelly for others to try!

Lets Grow

Thank you for all your help and support in collecting the Morrison's 'Let's Grow' vouchers. We were able to exchange the vouchers for some much needed gardening resources, such as brooms, trowels, rakes, vegetable and flower seeds. With our resources Reception cannot wait to get started on planting our vegetables and making a mini beast meadow with our wild flower seeds. When the scheme restarts, please collect as many vouchers as you can for this year!



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Winning ways

On Monday pupils from Years 4 to 8 took on a strong swimming team from Abberley Hall. Once again the spirit shown by pupils of all ages was a credit to the school. There were many fine individual and team performances. Congratulations to Ria, Adele and Ellie for winning their individual races. It was a close contest between the 'A' teams with HTIS winning by a margin of 10 points and overall the school won convincingly by 28 points.

Netball

On Wednesday pupils from Years 4 & 5 took part in a netball tournament held at Bromsgrove School. The pupils played with great enthusiasm and spirit. They won 1 match and lost 3 matches, although they were leading in one of those games. This was a perfect opportunity to provide the pupils with invaluable experience as they have 2 more matches next week.

Growing up

This half term Year 1 have been investigating how humans grow. Over the last couple of weeks the pupils have completed a wonderful piece of independent writing and some lovely art work on the story of Avocado Baby. They have also brought in some beautiful baby pictures and written a description of they look now to enable visitors to guess who is who! We are now just waiting for Mrs Polito's picture in order to complete our display! Year 1 are also very excited to see Mrs Moore and baby Beatrix on Monday morning. Mrs Moore has been kind enough to come in to answer the children's questions on how babies grow; they are ready and waiting with their questionnaires.



Work of the week — Congratulations to:

Lia (K1)	:wonderful listening skills
Hamza (K2)	:super construction of a soldier
Grace (Yr R)	:great work on capacity & associated vocabulary
Katherine (Yr 1)	:superb independent writing & retelling of a story
Maya (Yr 2)	:great story board and story
Livana (Yr 3)	:wonderful sunset picture
Zeb (Yr 4)	:superb multiplication skills
Ewurama (Yr 5)	:accurate instructional writing
Isobel (Yr 6)	:excellent writing skills



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Key Dates

- 6th Feb** Netball v Winterfold (A)
- 7th Feb** Swimming gala v St Martins (A)
- 8th Feb** Netball v Bromsgrove (A)
- 10th Feb** Half-term
- 24th Feb** Year 5 class assembly
- 5th Mar** Year 5 Maths Challenge (Cheltenham College)
- 9th Mar** Year 3 class assembly
- Year 6 Maths Challenge (Wrekin College)
- 14th Mar** Bags 2 school
- Year 6 Eggstravaganza (St Marys School)
- 19th Mar** Year 6 Spelling competition
- 23rd Mar** Mother's Day assembly
- 29th Mar** House swimming gala