From the Headmistress
It’s a bumper issue of our Newsletter this week so that you can enjoy some of the highlights of Enrichment Week. We’ve thoroughly enjoyed doing things a bit differently and all of the residential trips were a great success. We had a lovely Royal Wedding themed Mayfair – thank you to all those who helped out and who donated to the stalls and raffle – your support is very much appreciated. Monday is the Lower School Poetry Assembly for Nursery, Reception, Prep 1 and Prep 2 – parents are of course very welcome and do stay for a coffee in the playground afterwards.
Tuesday morning Forest school:
The first of our fabulous forest school mornings led by Claire Mills. The Prep Reception and Nursery children took part in lots of activities in and around the woodland including making dens for a pixie, collecting wood and lighting the fire, making stick men and playing eagle eyes. One of the highlights was making popcorn over the open fire. ‘The popcorn made lots of pops’ said Sienna. ‘I loved it!’

Wednesday – Goodrington Beach
Prep reception and Nursery met at the beach in the beautiful sunshine but unfortunately the sun didn’t last all day, but it didn’t spoil our fun! We enjoyed beach combing, looking for beautiful shells and other treasures which we then turned into fabulous beach art – a boat/submarine, a sand giant, a house and a star fish. After a lovely picnic lunch, we played games using the parachute, bean bags and hoops. We finished the day off with a delicious ice cream – yummy!

Tepee
To round off our day on Thursday we all joined forces to make a fantastic tepee in the playground. We discussed colours and patterns and the children decided the order in which we used the ribbons. ‘We had to put the ribbon around it, it’s good sitting inside it’ said Scarlett. It is now being used by the children during playtimes. We also made a mini tepee wrapped with wool for our teddies to use in the role play area.
Forest School
The highlight of our week was most definitely Forest School. The children relished the opportunity to explore the fantastic woods at Jessica’s house. Claire (mum to Barnaby in Nursery) led our fantastic sessions. The Friday session saw the children being introduced to flower and leaf printing, making wooden necklaces, den building, making clay faces and most importantly roasting marshmallows and toffee apples on the fire – yummy!

Crafting Fun!
This week the children also took part in some fun craft sessions. On Tuesday we made Paper Mache Hot Air Balloons, which was a very messy task, but worth the effort. On Friday, we had a go at making our own musical instruments, including a guitar, drums, a shaker and simple harmonica. Great fun was had by all and we loved our jamming session at the end of the day!!

Animal encounter
Thursday saw ‘Jack Zoo’ come into school for some close encounters with interesting animals. We were able to touch centipedes, a bearded dragon lizard, an owl, a hedgehog and a cockroach. It was a great experience to meet these lovely animals.
Our Visit to Knightshayes
First we went on the bus to Knightshayes. Then we had a little chat about what we were going to do that day. Next we had a look around the garden. We had a plant trail and we got told the names of the plants. We made some seed heads mine was called, Buttercup and Daisy. She can do lovely drawings because she wants to do a lovely picture of a garden. We named the parts of a plant on a sheet. Next we had lunch and were lucky enough to go to the adventure park which was made out of all the trees that had fallen down in the storm. By Clementine

Our Trip to the Eden Project
First we went on the bus to the Eden Project with Prep 2. Then we had a talk about what we were going to do. We went into the Tropical Rainforest biome. The first trail we went on was to find shelters in the biome to see what they were like. Then we saw a lizard on a big box in the sun. We also saw a cool shelter and we went in it. Next we went back to the classroom and we made shelters for Barrie and Ken who live in Brazil and don’t have a home. In the biome it was hot and there were lots of trees. by Eliza

Our Activity Day at School.
First we got into 3 groups and we went around some of the classrooms. We went to the Nursery to do butterflies and we watched a video of the life cycle of the butterfly. The caterpillar turned into a butterfly. The 2nd thing we did was D.T. We did bug houses and I put bamboo on it and we got to paint it. The next thing we did was cook. We made our lunch. It was a really fun day. by Freddie (Prep 1).
Dartington
“First, we met a lady called Zoe. Zoe led us into the garden, the garden was pretty. Next Zoe gave us a squelshy bit of clay. Then Zoe showed us what to do with the clay. Zoe showed us how to make a blobster. A blobster is a bit of clay that you shape into something. Then you put it by the fire to dry. While the blobsters were drying we split up into four groups. One group was pond dipping, another was planting pretty flowers, the other two were playing around on the grass and bug hunting all over the place. After that we sat down and had some hot chocolate. Then we cooked some pop-corn. Next, we went back around the camp fire, by now the blobsters were dry. After that we sat down and had our lunch. Finally, the Prep 1s went back to the mini bus, the prep2s and 3s were left at Dartington to walk back to school.” by Poppy Dayment

The School Bug Day
“First, my group went to Mr Brewer. He said that we were going to create our own bug house. I stuck some bark and little bits of wood on my own. I learned from that how to attract little insects with fruit. Next, we did cooking. We made sausage rolls, flap jacks, egg sandwiches and sausage balls and at lunch we nearly ate them all! Finally, we made butterfly shapes in paper and we read the story of “The Very Hungry Caterpillar”. We played predator, which is when someone is is a lion and everyone hides.

You hold two hands up and when you say lion everyone tells you the numbers. We played a game of beetle drive. In my team I had Rosie in Prep 3, Sebastian in Prep 1 and me. My brother Oli’s team won.”
Beth Brown

Knightshayes
“First, we walked through the giant walled garden of Knightshayes. Second, we went into a polytunnel and met some nice ladies who showed us around the entire garden. We saw all different plants like rhubarb and strange kinds of mint. I liked it because of the plants. The wall is there to stop animals from eating the plants and the wind from blowing them over. The wall was made in the 1800s. I liked the little pond in the middle of the garden because it had spikey plants. We made a grass seed head. We had a sock like a ballet sock and filled it with cotton wool and then we put some grass seeds in the top. We drew a face on it and stuck eyes on it and it was meant to look like a head. When it grows the grass will come out of the top of the head to look like hair. Then we had our lunch. Then we went to the play area. We went through a sheep field and saw some lambs then we went back to school.”
Erin Akast
VISIT TO PAIGNTON ZOO by Esmee Glue and Rosie Middleton
We had a wonderful day at Paignton Zoo. Our visit started with the beautiful pink flamingos. There were lots of them. Next, we went to the Education Centre and they told us about food chains and different teeth like gorilla’s. Then we went to see the bongos, a special type of antelope from Africa. Esmee thought her favourite animal was the wild Sumatran tiger and Rosie liked the tigers because the 2 year old cub came right up to the fence and lay down. We asked the keeper all about the tigers. We were very lucky to see all the lions and cheetah too. We saw so many animals it was amazing. There were lemurs, giraffes, an elephant called Duchess, zebra, pigmy marmosets, even gorillas and orangutans. As well as all of those we saw birds, emus, ostriches, owls, toucans with their funny bills and very quickly, on our way to the play area, we saw frogs. The play area was the last place we went to. It was such fun. We climbed to the top and went down the slide all the way to the bottom. We were very tired but very happy at the end of the day.

VISIT TO OCCOMBE FARM by Matthew Dayment, Louis Whittlesea and Mrs Edwardes
I liked Occombe Farm. When we arrived the first thing we did was to cook scones and we used sugar, milk, flour and put them all in a mixing bowl, then stirred it all up. Then we used cutters and put the scones on the tray, put them in the oven for ten minutes, took them out and there were some yummy scones. We had a snack, then we made pizza. Next, we saw the ducks, then we saw the plants, then we saw different ducks which were robbing the pond. After that we visited cute, cuddly lambs. They were called Porridge, Muffin and Parsley. A little while after we saw the chickens. One of them had been born with a curved beak and was called Crooked Beak. Finally, we looked at some older lambs and some alpacas which were grazing in the field.

Our class also planted some seeds, learnt how to safely use a garden fork, went on a walk in the woods and made tree spirits with clay and anything natural that could be found, played Bat and Moth and a Pollination game, attempted to dance in unison, picked herbs for their pizzas and at the end of the day were rewarded for their enthusiasm and good behaviour with a second visit to the lambs which they were allowed to feed with bottles of milk and pellets.
Prep 4 had a wonderful week. Their programme ranged from Historical activities on Slapton Sands to Art and Drama when preparing and performing our musical about the Anglo-Saxons. Our week began with a tour around Britannia Royal Naval College. We were lucky enough to explore the Naval Ship on the River Dart used for training. We then made our way to The Start Bay Centre where our afternoon activity was based around the history behind Slapton Sands and the story of Adolphus Tips. We also went to have a look at the road damage caused by storm Emma. After a delicious dinner we went on an Evening Walk through the nature reserve and discussed the nocturnal animals that can be seen there. The next morning, we completed the low ropes course at the centre before returning to school.

On Thursday Prep 4 visited Totnes Castle followed by an afternoon of Team Building with Mr Cottell. They all took the new experience in their stride and learnt some useful new skills about working together. Our ‘Play in a Day’ was based on the Anglo-Saxons and the children thoroughly enjoyed making shields and swords and I was really impressed with how quickly they learnt the songs for the performance. They had a very appreciative audience made up of Lower School children!
Our exciting year five residential trip started when we got in Ms Harris’s car. It was a long journey to the Youth Hostel in Coverack, Cornwall. Coverack is a tiny, small fishing village, it is a lovely place and we could hear the sea the minute we arrived. After we unpacked, we went for a walk into the village and visited a large, stoney beach. At the beach we found caves and we played games by the rocks. When I woke up the next day we packed out rucksack with important things. These were sun cream, shorts, t-shirt and a spare pair of socks. We were going to visit BF adventures which is a great adventure park. The highlight for me of this park was seeing William and Jack fall into the water whilst crossing on wooden planks! It made us all laugh!

Prep 5 enjoyed a Tudor Workshop, cooking, dancing dressing up and creating before we headed down to Cornwall for our 2-night residential. We aim to introduce our residential from Prep 4 so that we slowly build up, spending initially one night away, then 2 and then 3 when the children reach Prep 6. We had a fantastic time.
Bygones
“When we got to Bygones, we dressed up in typical Victorian clothes and we were shown around by a nice lady called Amanda. We were shown around all the Victorian shops and it was fun to compare the Victorian high street to a street today. Next, we went and saw the upper class Victorian home and we also compared that to a posh house now. Then, we danced to some old Victorian music, it was very fun. Finally, we went to the World War 1 bunker which was amazing. The trip was very interesting and fun.” By Jem Nashed

STEM Project
“During enrichment week we did our STEM project, it was on renewable energy. On the first day we looked at a miniature solar panel and a miniature wind turbine and how it worked. Then in the afternoon we had a competition to make our own wind turbines, they were judged by look, speed and if the wind could catch it at every angle (mine and Sophie’s won!). The next day we went to go visit them in real life. First we went to a wind turbine and it was MUCH bigger than I thought, we looked at how it works. Then we went to Parsonage Farm and looked at how they made renewable energy (they also gave us ice cream, yum!). We then went to look at a wood burner and a solar farm. After that we went to Totnes weir and made something that moved in water, out of things we found outside. It was A LOT of fun!” By Luella Price

Zip Wire
“I really enjoyed zip wire and I was really pleased that I went down it because I am scared of heights. I closed my eyes, took a deep breath and jumped! But once I was on it I had no clue what I was worrying about!! I was gliding through the air, by all the trees, it was so much fun. I went 2 more times and wasn’t scared at all!” By Luella Price

Quad Biking
“Quad biking was really fun, the PGL staff had to walk behind us with the kill cord which stopped the us when we went too fast. Once we went around the track they gave us the kill cord so we could go fast and on our own. The tires on the track were really fun because sometimes you could skid around them!” By Freddie Cunnell

Buggy Build
“On the afternoon of Sunday, we did buggy build which is where you have long round pieces of wood that you put through barrels. Then you put a cross to the stop the barrel falling off. There was 2 different knots; the X factor knot and the confusing knot. In the end ours looked pretty good but when it actually moved it fell apart and we had to do lots of forfeits. I really enjoyed it, mainly because of the forfeits!” By Teddy Smither

Ringos
“Before we left Barton Hall, we went to the Ringos. We started off low on the slope, but we gradually got higher. When we got to the top of the hill we used soap to make the ringos go faster and try to get over the second slope, but no one got over. Then we had wax as well, I got over the slope and got to the bottom red which was the farthest out of everyone!” By Theo Nicholson