

The Head Teacher writes...

Wouldn't it be great if every home had a Babushka? Those of you who, like me, have enjoyed watching the Pre-Prep Christmas play, will know what I mean. Babushka sees her life's work as keeping her house spotless and by filling her time cleaning she manages to forget how lonely and sad she is.

However, as the story develops, we realise, as she does, that there are other much more important things—thank goodness a clean house is not what it is all about!

The idea that every good deed, thought and word is what counts is a concept that we try to instil in all our pupils throughout the year. The story of Babouska was therefore a timely reminder for us all and a powerful message in this run up to Christmas. Thank you to Pre-Prep and to all the staff and parents who have helped put on this colourful production.

What a Fantastic Christmas Fair!



On Saturday, the hall was a buzz of activity as prizes were won; chocolate for the children and bottles for the adults. Children selected and wrapped their gifts ready for Christmas Day, worked hard in the craft room and of course, visited the man himself—Father Christmas! Parents and friends enjoyed a delicious selection of cakes and drinks, served almost professionally by the Year 6 parents...

We are immensely grateful to everyone who worked before, during and after to make the Fair such a lovely event to be a part of. The really good news is that a lot of money was raised as a result of all the hard work, hopefully over £5000!

AMAZING!

Thank you to the PTA and friends and to everyone who supported.



HANNAH Year 5

Hannah recently took part in a show jumping event at Felbridge Showground. Over 40 riders took part and we are delighted to say Hannah beat off the competition, including many older riders, to win the event on her pony, Pye.

Well done, Hannah!



CHRISTMAS—Should it be banned for people who are non-Christian?

While Miss O'Sullivan stepped in at the last minute to the role of 'Lighting Technician' for the Pre-Prep Christmas play, her class joined Year 5 for this timely debate.

Mrs Tuxworth directed and guided the children in what she described as 'a fantastic debate'. She was impressed with the way pupils from both classes contributed, listened and expressed their views clearly and politely.

In her words, 'The House of Commons members could learn a lot from the mature and controlled debating skills at St David's!'

While there were some children who felt that Christmas should focus on the 'sacred' and not the 'secular' and that Christmas should be for Christians, most children felt that Christmas should be a time for everyone to enjoy.

Anika's view that Jesus loves and forgives everyone and that it would therefore be un-Christian to exclude anyone from joining in with such a wonderful celebration, seemed to sum up the views expressed by the majority.

Lots of children felt that Christmas was a time of love and, therefore, a time for families to be together.

Following a vote, the motion to ban Christmas for non-Christians was not carried!

HAPPY PUZZLE DAY—MIND MISSIONS

CHALLENGE COMMUNICATE
ENGAGE PROGRESS

Next Tuesday, all pupils will have the opportunity to work in groups to complete ability-appropriate missions. They will need to draw on a wide variety of mathematical and thinking skills in order to complete their mission.

This will provide a great opportunity for our children to not only work collaboratively but also to enable them to utilise their independent learning skills.

PARENT WORKSHOP

If you would like to see what they have been up to and gain an insight into how your children think and learn, then you are invited to a puzzle workshop to work with them to try some puzzle solving yourself. This will take place in the hall between 4.15pm and 5.45pm on Tuesday afternoon. Please email the office if you would like to take part in this free event. (office@stdavidscollege.com)

THE PUZZLE SHOP

3.30—4.00pm

Puzzle Company will be hosting a shop in the hall to give you the opportunity to buy some thinking skills puzzles and games for home.

SCROOGE

The whole school were entertained by the Flying Pizza Theatre Company who presented their take on 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens. The children thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon if the amount of laughter coming from the hall was anything to go by. Thank you to the PTA who funded this Christmas treat.

GOODBYE

We were all very sad to say goodbye this week to Anya (5) and Neel (1) as they move with their family to Dubai. We will miss them both but wish the whole family well.