



## The Head Teacher writes...

A week of visits and visitors!

This week, we have had visits from two former pupils. Mitchell Simmonds left St David's in 2011 and went on to study at Dulwich College, obviously very successfully as, in his final year he has been made School Captain, a great honour. Mrs Handy and I remember Mitchell with real fondness, especially as some health problems meant he spent quite a lot of time being comforted by us both and we came to love his company and hearing about his cruise holidays with extended family. He was a special Davidian (aren't they all??!!) and the qualities he demonstrated here have evidently been recognised by all the pupils and staff at Dulwich who voted him in as School Captain.

Then we had a visit from another Davidian who attended the school sixty years ago! Visiting from Norway, Gunnar Gravdal and his wife were in London and decided to take the train to West Wickham and give us a call. Miss Slim took great delight in showing them around our school and was amazed at the many happy memories he had and the fact that he still has his cap and satchel from his St David's days, all the way back in Norway! It was lovely to meet with them both.



MITCHELL SIMMONDS



MR & MRS GRAVDAL

As for visits, Mrs Wright and Mrs Page travelled to Christ's Hospital School on Tuesday and were treated to a luxurious dinner having been shown around the magnificent school, met the staff and observed some lessons. One of our former pupils is now a boarder there and enjoys the unique experience the school offers.

On Wednesday evening, Mrs Handy and I were invited to a dinner in the Great Hall at Dulwich College. We enjoyed meeting staff and partaking of a fantastic meal in a truly historic setting. We were fortunate to sit at a table with one of the Deputy Masters, Iain Scarisbrick, another ex-Davidian and enjoyed reminiscing as well as telling him about all the recent improvements to our school.

Pupils at both Dulwich College and Christ's Hospital undoubtedly benefit from a privileged education. However, both schools offer extremely generous bursaries in a genuine effort to make their schools available to bright pupils from across the social spectrum. Maybe take a look...



**Learn Indian dancing with Year 5 and help create a collage full of images of India**

**Feel the life of Africa through the beat of the drums!**

**Visit Denmark, home of Lego robots; programme them to move**

**Visit Year 3 where you can plunge into the ocean and discover the wonders of Fiji**

**Join Year 2 'down under' and go dotty with native Aboriginal art!**

**'It means no worries, for the rest of your days.**

**It's our problem free... philosophy... Guatemala!'**

**Join the party, come and have fun making Brazilian masks in Year 1**

**Allez la France!**

**HOPE YOU'RE ALL GOING TO COME ALONG AND JOIN IN THE FUN!**

## Hello to our New Reception Children

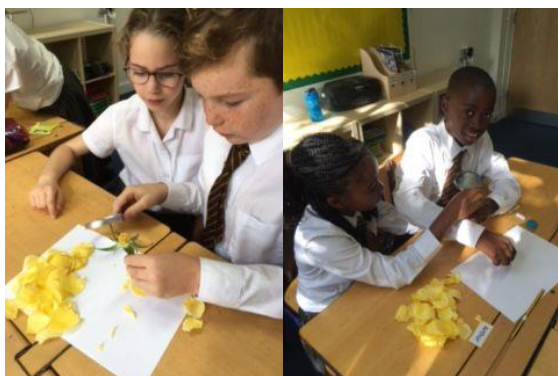
It has been wonderful to welcome our new Reception children to St David's. We have been incredibly impressed with how well they have all settled in, learning routines, investigating the classroom both inside and out and making new friends. They have been drawing and colouring in, learning and writing their sounds in a variety of ways and are even starting to sound blend! They have also enjoyed painting pictures of themselves, mixing colours with their hands and partaking in experiments using 'skittles'! PE and games lessons with Mr Hunter have been enjoyed and also music lessons with Mrs Pollard where they have been practising songs for Harvest. They looked so smart and grown up in their school uniforms when the photographer came this week.

Watch this space for further updates!



## YEAR 5

In science, Year 5 are learning about living things and their habitats. This has included reproduction of flowering plants and identifying the male and female parts.



We used tweezers and a magnifying glass to examine the anther, filament and stigma.

## NEXT WEEK

### September

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>

Friday 29<sup>th</sup>

Years 2 – 6 Chess Club begins  
MacMillan Coffee Morning

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### October

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>

Friday 6<sup>th</sup>

Monday 9<sup>th</sup>

Harvest Festival

Parent Council

Pre-Prep to The Gruffalo at  
Churchill Theatre

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>

Friday 20<sup>th</sup>

7.45pm PTA

Open Morning: International Day

STEM Morning

6 – 8pm Prep Swimming Gala

Half-Term: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

### HOLIDAY CLUB

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December

PTA Fireworks

PTA Christmas Fair

Prep to Cinderella at  
Greenwich Theatre

Art Club with Mrs Merritt is proving very popular!



Please come and join us on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September  
between 9.00am and 11.00am hosted by  
Mr Hunter and Year 6.

Any donations of cakes, second-hand books or  
raffle prizes will be most welcome.