



w/c 15.01.2018

Mrs Blaza, Year 4 Teacher and Modern Languages Subject Leader writes ...

What a lovely first term I have had at St David's! There have been so many highlights for me, not least meeting and getting to know my brilliant class and the super staff team at St David's. I have felt so incredibly welcomed by all, including parents, and am now proud to call myself a Davidian.

At the end of last term, Mrs Sowter kindly allowed me to add some songs in different languages at the Prep school Carol Service. With only four weeks to learn a song (in a completely new language for Years 3 and 4), the children proved themselves to be utterly dynamic, persevering and hard working. I was blown away by the talent we have in our school, both musically and linguistically. I am now looking forward to seeing how far I can raise the profile of languages at St David's.

With this in mind, the children will soon all be provided with a 'Global Passport'. As they travel through the school, this will serve as a document in which they can earn stamps for acts of Global Citizenship.

I strongly believe that an international education and a global awareness are the stepping stones to the modern world.

Across the world, there are around seven thousand different languages spoken, and whilst few of us can hope to converse fluently in hundreds of languages, the benefits of learning to communicate in a different language are numerous. Root words, morphology, derivatives and spelling patterns are all hugely beneficial to a child's grasp of English, as well as feeding confidence, creativity and curiosity. Becoming a 21st century global citizen is both an exciting and daunting prospect, and at St David's our Global Passports will encourage the children to see themselves as active participants in both their immediate community and school, whilst gradually understanding their British, European and ultimately world citizenship. We celebrate the rich cultural diversity we have at St David's, and look forward to developing forward-facing, linguistically confident children who will feel prepared for an international future.

Thank you for all your support.

Hope4Malawi

£3,000 raised

On Monday, we welcomed back to St David's Sara Goodman from Hope4Malawi to present her with the total amount of money raised by our wonderful children and staff. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed - we know that it will make a real difference to the children in Malawi. Sara sent the following message to us before she is goes out to Malawi next week and is looking forward to sharing the St David's stories of generosity.



It is wonderful that the pupils at St David's care about children 5,000 miles away whom they don't even know but can identify with. The compassion and generosity has been incredible. Thank you everyone for your hard work, time and effort.



Year 5 completed a science experiment making a replica of the solar system using fruit and toilet roll. Each square of toilet roll represented 16 million km in distance.

We used different size fruits to distinguish the sizes of the planets:

Jupiter – a watermelon

Saturn – a grapefruit

Earth – a cherry tomato

Mercury – a garden pea!



WHAT PLANET ARE YOU ON?

Year 1 were fascinated this week to learn all about the kind of toys that their grandparents and parents would have played with.



There was great excitement in **Year 3** this week as Mrs Pollard introduced them to the ukulele. Have a look on Facebook and see a short video of their first lesson.



Mrs Foulger is thoroughly enjoying Tuesday STEM Club with Years 5 and 6. The first task was to build a bridge from Knex and to test their designs to see how many books they could support.



THANK YOU

I love my job and believe that our amazing staff do too, most of the time. However, it is always lovely to receive thanks from you, whether in person, in a letter or email or by way of a positive comment on Facebook.

This week, I was especially touched to receive many kind words from parents on the carpark one morning, having not made an appearance out there for some time!

Then we opened a truly encouraging email from a parent, thanking us for **'exceeding their expectations and going the extra mile...!'** In our mind, we were simply doing our job but we'll enjoy the thanks nevertheless.

And finally for this week, a new review post on Facebook has painted our school in glowing terms, **'St David's is a wonderfully nurturing environment, where all children are valued for who they are and challenged to be the best they can be.'**

We will keep doing the job we love, but it does us all good to know we are appreciated from time to time!

Thank you from Mrs Foulger



Children and Staff in Prep had informative and at times, very challenging workshops this week about Anti-Bullying. Fortunately incidents of what we call bullying are rare and the children had time to carry on discussions with their form teachers.

Coming up next week:

Sunday 21st	ISA National Swimming finals
	Good Luck Rosemary
Tuesday 23 rd	8.00am Year 5 parents meeting re Carrotty Wood
Friday 26 th	U11 Football v City of London (A)
	Yrs 5 & 6 Netball v Rosemead (H)
Tuesday 30 th	Prep Choir to Young Voices at O2
Friday 2 nd	Maths Number Day