

2017



2016-17
Much began
to change...
but much
stayed the
same



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Welcome...

to this year's edition of the Crescent Circular – a year in which much has begun to change, while the most important and fundamental things have stayed the same. It was a year beginning and ending with inspections. In August 2016, our partner, on-site nursery, Nature Trails, were inspected by Ofsted, just seven months after opening, and were rated as 'Outstanding' – a marvellous achievement in such a short space of time. Then in July 2017, the school underwent a Regulatory Compliance Inspection by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) and passed with flying colours.



Full marks for Crescent School in Independent Schools' Compliance Inspection



In July the Crescent School passed the Independent Schools Inspectorate's (ISI) Regulatory Compliance Inspection with full marks, with the school meeting all the requirements in every section, in full.

An ISI Compliance Inspection is a detailed review of a school to ensure that it meets the standards required in terms of a wide range of important factors, including:

- Quality of education provided
- Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils
- Welfare, health and safety of pupils
- Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors
- Premises and accommodation
- The provision of information
- Handling complaints
- Quality of leadership of and management of the school

The inspectors observed lessons and pupils' work. They spoke with pupils, teachers, senior staff and the Chair of Trustees. They observed extra-curricular activity, attended assemblies and inspected the premises. In addition, they reviewed the responses of parents and pupils to pre-inspection questionnaires.

Amongst other comments, in their report, the inspectors highlighted, "The teaching enables pupils to make good progress", "Principles and values are actively promoted which facilitate the personal development of pupils", and "Leaders and managers demonstrate good skills and knowledge".

At the end of the thorough two-day inspection the inspectors concluded, "The school meets the standards and no further action is required as a result of this inspection."

Review of the Year

On 1 September 2016 Crescent joined **The Princethorpe Foundation**. Whilst there will be significant changes to the Crescent School over the next few years most importantly there will be a continuity of the fundamental ethos of the school.



The founding fathers of the Foundation talked about the need for the response to the human condition being one of compassion and not criticism and I believe that fits very well with the positive ethos of the Crescent Promise.

Early in the year two significant appointments were made – a lollipop man to patrol just along the road from the school and a new Headmaster. I'll leave you to make up your own mind as to which was the more important! It is true to say that the former appointment wouldn't have been made but for the efforts of one or two Crescent parents; children from several local schools will be far safer as a result.

The year has seen an ever wider range of opportunities for children with some outstanding successes. We have fielded many more sports teams than ever before and transported them in our own minibuses. I had the pleasure of being one of the drivers taking two Under 9 cricket teams to play against Bedford School where I had once taught Maths and Sport. The two teams, of boys and girls, competed well against two teams of boys from a much bigger school.

Children have also entered the UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge and the Wrekin Maths Challenge doing well in both and winning the latter.

Music has, as always, featured prominently in the lives of many within the community. The school production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat was a resounding success and very much enjoyed by the audience. Many of our children played in a concert with the Bilton Junior Silver Band which raised over £1000 for charity – the Bwengu Project.

In the penultimate week of term, I was honoured to have an Eisteddfod as a leaving 'do' organised by Mrs Forth, with help from Mrs Corbin amongst others. I had no idea what to expect but I couldn't have either anticipated or hoped for anything more special. Crescent is, indeed, a special place and, as my late father used to say 'the sun seems to shine on the Crescent'.

Also leaving this year after many years of little or no changes on the staff are Mrs Darby, Mrs Thompson, Mrs Boys and Mrs Clayton. All have given wonderful service, particular mention must go to Mrs Boys who has been here for 26 years, and Mrs Clayton who first taught at the school in 1979 but had breaks to have her two children. Happily, we have been able to replace them with outstanding successors and I have every confidence that the school will go from strength to strength under the new headmaster, Mr Thackway's leadership.

Huw Marshall

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Pre-Prep maintain high standards

This academic year has proved to be another very happy and successful year for children in Pre-Prep.

In Reception 73% of children attained a 'good level of development' compared to a national average of 69%. This data is based upon the children achieving at least expected standards within the 12 key Early Learning Goals (ELGs). The average national point score is 34, here at Crescent it is 35 but it is worth noting that our Crescent cohort has 67% Summer Term birthdays – 33% of whom do not have their fifth birthday until after the Reception school year has ended. In Reception 7% of children exceeded age expectations across all the ELGs. In Reading 27% exceeded age expectations, in Writing it was 20% and in Maths 27% (both of these show an increase on last year). In Science 20% of children exceeded expectations. NB 1 child = 6.7%

In Class I 100% of children met or exceeded expectations in Reading, Writing, Maths and Science. In Class I 46% exceeded expectations in English, 46% in Maths and 36% in Science. NB 1 child = 6.7%. This represents an increase in attainment in all three subjects.

Class II children have also continued to thrive. In Reading 87% of children met or exceeded expectations, in Writing 87%, in Maths 93% and in Science 93%. In Class II 27% of children exceeded age expectations in Reading, 27% in Writing, 33% in Maths and 33% in Science. NB 1 child = 6.7%.

“We are very proud of the huge amount of work that children, parents and staff put into achieving these high standards.” - Alan Webb, Head of Pre-Prep



CLASS I
100%
of children
met or exceeded
expectations in
Reading, Writing,
Maths and Science.

CLASS II
93%
of children
met or exceeded
expectations in
Maths.



Academic success

For almost any school an academic report focuses on the academic achievements of the top year group, in our case Class VI.

Our class of 21 pupils enjoyed a very successful year. Thirteen of them sat the 11+ tests for the Grammar Schools and over 60% of these children were offered places. Fourteen sat entrance tests to senior independent schools with all of them being offered places. Eight of them were awarded scholarships – six to Princethorpe College, one to Rugby School and one to The Kingsley School for Girls.

Elsewhere in the school the children sat nationally standardised tests in English, Maths and Science. Results across the board were very pleasing with many of our children meeting or exceeding national expectations.

Of course, there is so much more to the academic side of a Crescent education than just English, Maths and Science and to quote our recent ISI Reporting Inspector our children have benefited from “very, very good teaching, some inspirational”. We were also very delighted to be told that our tracking of pupils’, the key to ensuring progress, is ‘phenomenal’.

“Very, very good teaching, some inspirational and our tracking of pupils phenomenal.”

ISI Inspector



Prizes for 2016 - 2017



The Barrett Prizes for English	
Class VI Nirmay Patel	
Class V Olivia Sarkies	
Class IV Maya Patel	
Class III Chloe Wensley	
The Marshall Award for Reading	Ed Thomas
The Ovens Cup for Maths	George Boyes
The Taylor Trophy for Science	James Latham
The Abu El Gasim Prize for Languages	Zahara Anwar (Latin) Alex Ashton (French)
The Forth Prize for Humanities	Monty Hinde
The Ovens/Davis Trophy for IT	Jacob Thomson
The Page Music Prize	Imogen Angell
The Music Cup	Jacob Thomson
The Henderson Cup for Drama	Abbi Smith
The Eckersley Cup for Acting	Josh Stevens
The Speech and Drama Cup	Imogen Angell
The Heyes Art Prize	Arabella Darby
The Morley/Boys Pre-Prep Cup for Resilience	Eve Ferguson
The Barnes Cup for Girls' Sport	Sophie Gray
The Hunt Trophy for Boys' Sport	James Robinson
The Noyce Trophy for Netball	Zahara Anwar
The Noden Cup for Enthusiasm	James Latham
The Conduct Cup	Emma Sarkies
The Brown Award for Community Service	Owain Brown
The Head Girl's Award	Krupa Patel
The Head Boy's Award	Josh Stevens

“ We have grown in mind, ability, confidence and body ”

Reception



Another jam packed year in Reception, full of fun and excitement!

We have learned to read, learned to write (in the most beautiful cursive style) and learned to count and manipulate numbers, all whilst having a blast in Space, exploring the galaxy and discovering fantastic planet facts!

We took delivery of our new Home Corner equipment and discovered how to work and play well together in our happy Crescent School family.

We spent time investigating the world in our outdoor environment and went on our first coach trip to see Stick Man, oh yes we did!

Our Jigsaw program has helped us become delightfully rounded children, confident and secure in our own minds and bodies. We have learned to use our voices in Music and Spanish to express ourselves and now truly feel a part of the wider world.

We trained hard and wowed everyone on Sports Day with our athletic ability and had fun on the farm at Mini Meadows! We have grown in mind, ability, confidence and body; we are so ready to move on to Class 1 and all the delights that it offers!



CHINA

We used Chinese New Year as a super starting point for learning about this vast country and culture. We dressed up and sang songs about tea clipper ships. We discovered which year we were born in – we are all Rabbits and Dragons this school year! We are so clever we even managed to write in Chinese!





Octopuses

We discovered such a lot about octopuses during the Summer Term. We made gorgeous paper plate creatures with Cheerio tentacles - a new flavour for calamari! We learned that they have nine brains which makes them almost as clever as the children in Reception!



Space



Despite heading off to deep space during the Spring Term, we still managed to find out all about constellations and man's race for the moon. We discovered the planets in our own solar system and had great fun learning lots of space songs and watching 'that's one small step for man'... one giant leap for Reception!



SPIDERS



Autumn term saw Reception learning about our eight-legged friends! We went on a spider hunt and studied what we found with our magnifying glasses. We watched a spider's web being spun and learned that they have an outside skeleton which actually makes them very fragile, not scary at all!



Battle of Hastings

Summer Term saw us doing battle in Hastings! We looked at The Bayeux Tapestry and chose our sides! William's supporters were all smiles but Harold's felt sad! We learned about Norman castles and costumes and how they fought. Then we stretched our brains combining maths and art to make geometric Paul Klee inspired castles.



Daisies

In late spring we spent an idyllic day out on the main field researching and collecting daisies. As the sun shone down we sat and made daisy chains, a challenging fine motor activity! We brought this activity back into the classroom when we searched the internet for interesting daisy facts.

Reception Teacher: Mrs Clayton

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Eric Hutchinson | Olivia Cooke |
| Bryson Taylor-Jackson | Olivia McLoughlin |
| Chloe Brosnan | Grace Mercer |
| Tegan McLeod | Archie Monteith |
| Zara Musukuma | Nicholas Pollard |
| Jasper Evans | Freddie Spicer |
| Harry McBean | Grace Crowfoot |
| Yash Patil | |





Class I

“ We are now ready to embark on the next steps in our school journey ”

This year has been an amazing one for children in Class I.

We are maturing into kind and thoughtful people who consider the feelings of others and strive to make good choices. We have worked hard to listen and learn and have made good progress as a result. Our reading levels have rocketed so that on average we are reading one year beyond our actual age. In English, Maths and Science each one of us is attaining at least expectations and often exceeding them. We have learnt to embrace challenge and face mistakes as an opportunity to learn and we know how to keep ourselves safe in different situations. We have loved opportunities to be on the stage, to visit exciting new places, to welcome visitors with pride in our school, to widen our interests through extra-curricular opportunities and to apply our learning orally and written. We are now ready to embark on the next steps in our school journey.

Jelly Poems

Writing comes alive in Class I as the children share the vocabulary of jelly poems before exploring the properties of jelly for themselves! This enabled them to apply their knowledge to writing poems independently about other foods. Of course we had to celebrate our success with a little tasting!



SNEEZY THE SNOWMAN

Class I were inspired by the book, 'Sneezy the Snowman' to consider the effect of warmth on snow.





Fruit Salad

In the Spring Term Class I studied fruit. They learnt where fruit comes from, what it tastes like and how to prepare it. They described the fruits they tried and discussed their preferences. They completed the study by preparing a fruit salad to take home to enjoy with their families! Delicious!



Haiku

Who would have thought that Class I children could write haiku poems - a 5 syllable line, then 7, then 5 again?

At Crescent they can - with time to think and plenty of self belief anything is possible.

*"Graceful, tall, swishy
hard working and beautiful
hungry, big creature."*

A wonderful horse haiku written by a five year old.



DT VEHICLES

In the Autumn Term Class I looked at vehicles. They compared and contrasted them before they set about designing their own. They produced labelled diagrams, chose their materials and then made, tested and finally evaluated them. Some made cars while others made aeroplanes or helicopters and Sophia's even included a convertible roof!



Science Classification

Class I Science lessons engage the children in discovering, exploring and learning through real situations. Here they are investigating grouping animals. Do fish really have all the things we said they do?



UNDER THE SEA

Mmmm... what to do on a miserable day? Head to the Art Room! Class I developed their sculpturing skills making 'Under the Sea' clay tiles for their class project. The finished products were incredible!



CHRISTINGLE

Class I studied the symbolism behind the traditional Advent Christingle (and enjoyed eating the left over sweets too!)

Class I Teacher: Mr Webb

Rory King
Kaiyan Panchal
Stephanie Bolton
Charlotte Corbin
Keshie Lamb

Freddie Thompson
Evie Berton
Sophia Deery
Freya Smith
James Ashton

Rohan Somerset
Dorrit Davies
Chloe Sarkies

Our Year in Class II has seen us learn, grow and mature together.

We have had some amazing new opportunities like learning to play the mini cornet in mini brass with Mrs Fisher. We have learnt so much. In Maths, our topics have included learning to tell the time, fractions, number and place value, calculations, geometry, the properties of shapes and have even learnt about statistics. In English we have written poems, planned our stories, looked at conjunctives, adverbs, adjectives, subordinate clauses and complex sentences. We have recited proverbs and had some of our parents taking part in our lessons. Most excitingly in the Spring Term we have had an Amazon Rainforest in our classroom. We have learnt what makes us healthy, how to look after ourselves and have grown tomatoes. At Christmas and for our Open Morning we took the lead on acting in our two productions. This has been such a busy year for us in Class II.



Class II

PROVERBS

- A stitch in time saves nine.
- More haste, less speed.
- Don't run before you can walk.
- Don't count your chickens before they are hatched.
- There is no smoke without fire.
- Never look a gift horse in the mouth.
- Too many cooks spoil the broth.
- Strike while the iron is hot.
- People in glass houses shouldn't throw.

“This has been such a busy year for us in Class II.”



Infant Athletics

Some of us represented our school in the Infant Athletics Competition at St Matthew's Primary in Bloxam, Rugby on Wednesday 23 May. We took part in a variety of events including javelin throwing, running, sprinting, long jump and a 400m relay. We loved every minute and victory was ours when we won overall.



Katie Morag

We have collaborated together to make this impressive Island of Struay as well as our own crofts. This was inspired by our Katie Morag topic; we looked at how island life is different to that on the mainland.



Great Fire of London

In History we looked back at the Great Fire of London. We found out about how and why it started and what happened to the city. We recreated the scene by combining our own fire pictures to make one large display.



creative writing

We were inspired by the season of autumn and wrote poems called Autumn is.... We created an Autumnal display board. We made wonderful sunset and moonlight pictures in Art. They showed the amazing scenes that the morning or the evening can bring. This inspiration helped us to create our own pictures and from these came excellent creative writing.



DIWALI

We also took part in the retelling of Rama and Sita story for Diwali.



AMAZON RAINFOREST

The classroom became an Amazon Rainforest teeming with parrots, monkeys, sloths, toucans and vines. We learnt about the different layers in the forest as part of our Geography. We also had the option to create a mini project at home and bring them into school to display.



INTREPID EXPLORERS

We have sailed the ocean blue and gone to the moon when learning about Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong. We designed and made our own mini solar system.



Class II Teacher: Mrs Boys

Ben Angell
Joshua Olnor
Ella Brown
Eve Ferguson
Asha Mistry
Isaac Nelson
Jay Patil
George Rule

Alyssa Barnett
Amy Robinson
George Crowfoot
Idan Dar
Michael Mercer
Isla Barrack
Harriet Sarkies

Class III



“Class III is definitely a year where the children blossom”

Coming into Class III, the children are ready for a ‘step-up’ in terms of becoming more independent in their learning and managing their own belongings!

They are nurtured and given responsibility when moving around school and being taught by the specialist teachers, so being organised and prepared for lessons is really important. The children strive to meet the new challenges and it is wonderful to see how their cursive writing is becoming more consistent and fluid: a big incentive of the year is to gain a Pen Licence which enables them to write with a handwriting pen. Many of our children in Class III take up the opportunity to start individual music lessons or represent the school in one of the many sports fixtures; the co-curricular activities provide a wealth of opportunities to get involved with. The highlight of the year has to be their first school residential experience to Whitemoor Lakes where the children have an overnight stay with their friends and a timetable packed with outdoor activities which provide fun and personal challenges to many. Class III is definitely a year where the children blossom and grab every opportunity available to them!

Endangered Animals

In Geography Class III have understood what it means for an animal to become endangered and explored ways in which humanity can help their cause through conservation and the choices we make. They each chose an animal to research and presented it through art, craft and ICT.



Chocolate Maths

The highlight of our Maths lessons this year is when we introduce chocolate to help us understand our learning! Whether it is using Toblerone bars to teach the properties of a prism, or Smarties to work out fractions of an amount, everyone enjoys finding out the answers!



HEDGEHOGS

After reading The Hodgeheg, the children have been very creative in sharing their learning about these wildlife creatures. We even had a visit from the Warwickshire Hedgehog Rescue to bring our learning to life! Not only have we learned all there is to know about hedgehogs – we have helped rescue two of them in our locality!





Be a Baker

In the Spring Term Class III's DT project was called 'Be a Baker!' The children learnt how bread from around the world can contribute to a healthy, varied diet. They learnt where their food comes from and how different ingredients are produced. They then used research and tasting to design and make bread and pizza safely and hygienically.



CARING FOR OTHERS

Class III have considered children and families in need in our community and, through our RE objectives, compared how The Salvation Army serve the community against the invaluable Langer kitchens within the Sikh community. They have then thought of how they could use their time, money and talents to help others in need.



Examining Art

Class III have been studying a variety of different artists and creating their own artwork based on their observations. They have looked at Lowrie, Laura Edgar, Volkous, Gaudi (architect) and others. We were lucky enough to have a visit from our local artist, Alix Smith, who brought in some of her paintings for the children to see and create their own version.



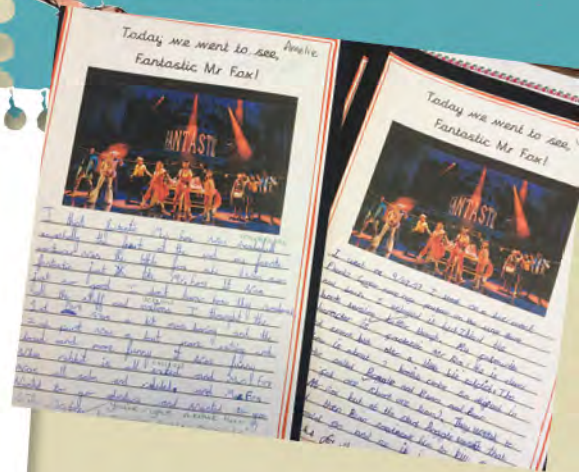
FANTASTIC MR FOX

Following reading and writing about the amazing characters in this book, the children visited Milton Keynes theatre to see the play come to life and we were not disappointed. The plot might have changed and the roles reversed, but the children loved every minute!



JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

Our Jump Rope for Heart event took place in March and Class III raised over £250 through their sponsored skip.



Class III Teacher: Mrs Stapleton

George Bell
Alexander Colver
Henry Corbin
Joshua Gorbutt
Lucy Bentley
Milly Knott
Isabelle Slaytor
Chloe Wensley

Archie Dowling
Hugo Hinde
Euan Nelson
Arabella
Drinkwater
Amelie Frere
Sienna Moran
Maryn Yates

Marco Rodriguez Hernandez
Matthew Thomas
Theo Wells
Phoebe Causer
Jessica Sarkies
Freya Somerset
Issy Thompson

Shadows

In Science Class III learnt about shadows and how they are formed. They experimented with opaque, translucent and transparent objects to find why some objects make better shadows than others and they investigated how shadows can be made bigger and smaller.



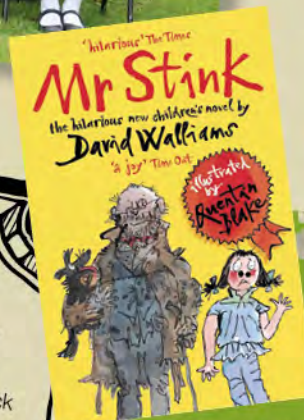
Class IV

It's been an action-packed year in Class IV, both inside and outside the classroom.

One of the biggest initiatives in the fundraising calendar is the BWENGU project which is spearheaded by Class IV every year. They raised an impressive £996.37 to help developments in the village of Bwengu in Malawi through activities such as a sponsored silence, a penny path, a name the teddy competition and a raffle. Tony and Sue Melia of Bwengu Projects came in to receive the cheque and talk to the whole school about their endeavours in Africa. Our money will help the refurbishment of Bumba Junior School, and provide hot food for orphans.

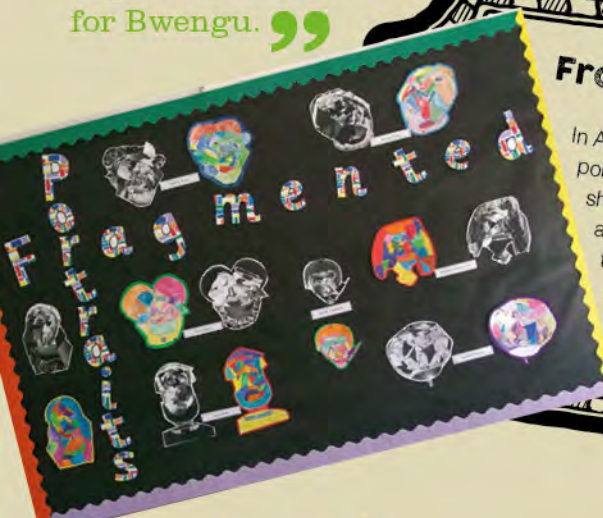


“ Class IV raised an impressive £996.37 for Bwengu. ”



Fragmented Portraits

In Art Class IV looked at a variety of artists' portraits. They then put themselves in the shoes of a plastic surgeon to dissect black and white photographs in order to rebuild their own portrait. They needed many skills for this task, careful cutting, tracing and painting to finally create their colourful fragmented portraits.



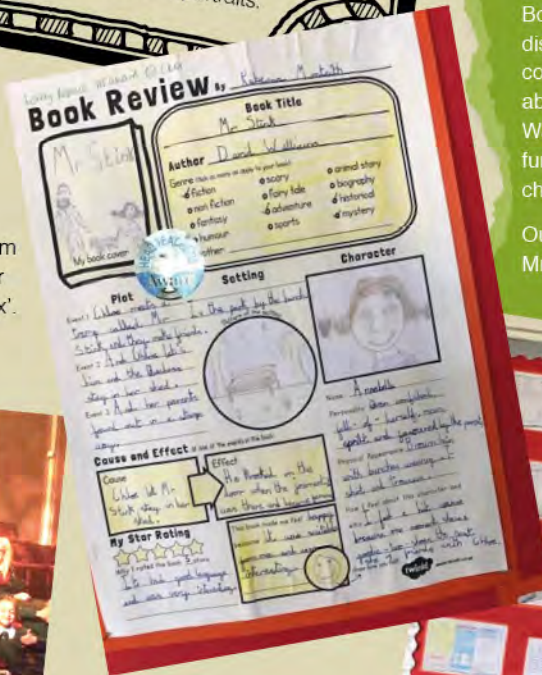
WALLIAMS' WORK

In our academic lessons, the children have produced some super work; they thoroughly enjoyed reading and analysing David Walliams' Billionaire Boy and Mr Stink. They were able to discuss the plot in groups, complete comprehension work and think about the characters in more depth. Walliams' narrative provided many funny moments, and really sparked the children's imaginations.

Our display of class book reviews for Mr Stink.

Theatre Trips

We have been lucky enough to go to the theatre twice during the year – our Christmas outing was to Birmingham to watch 'The Wind in the Willows', and then in the Easter Term we visited Milton Keynes to watch 'Fantastic Mr Fox'. A great time was had by all.



LOVELY LUNCH

In the spring term Class IV's DT topic was making a 'Lovely lunch'. This included looking at the Eat Well plate, doing a survey to assess sandwich preference, tasting a variety of sandwiches and finally designing and making their own sandwich to take home to eat.



Malawi

Eve Harnuza visited Class IV. She was born in Malawi and worked in the Bwengu area. She told the children about her life and showed them artefacts.



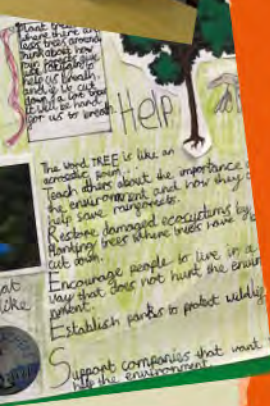
Rainforests

The children completed a topic on Persuasive Writing, where they researched Rainforests around the world, and thought more about the issues surrounding them; why are rainforests so important? What are the consequences of destroying them? What can be done to help the situation in the future? Our class display was bright, colourful and informative, and our discussions were lively and interesting.



Aesop's Fables

In the Christmas Term we studied Aesop's Fables and Legends. We read extracts from Beowulf, using this as our inspiration, and the children drew sketches of the monster, Grendl. The children then wrote their own legends, drawing on all the work we had done. They set them in traditional settings, and included a hero and a villain, some of whom were very frightening!



TWISTED FAIRY TALES

One of our favourite topics during the year has been 'Twisted Fairy Tales' where we revisited our favourite childhood tales, but put a 'twist' on them, writing them from a different point of view. The children came up with their own stories using titles such as, 'The Bean and the Beanstalk', 'The Pea under the Mattress' and 'The Troll and the Three Billy Goats Gruff'.

Class IV Teacher: Mrs Monteith

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Oliver Bentley | Kyle Kerfoot-Bale |
| Lewis Darby | Olivia Monk |
| Advay Pophali | Maya Patel |
| Harry Richards | Cara Ridd |
| Anton Tran | Eva Thompson |
| Lily Emery | Fin Calder |
| Olivia Fox | Mehul Patel |
| Lucy Hardy | Vignesh Sadasivan |
| Mia Webb | Rayan Usman |
| Jamie Capelett | Arabella Dughmash |
| Anand Desai | Rebecca Monteith |
| Jayden Goodwin | Isabelle Wood |

Watch out the Crescent's camera's about



So much goes on day in day out at the Crescent School. We always have a camera to hand to catch the moment. Here are some sneaky shots we took during the school year.





Class V



In a year dominated by paper aeroplanes, Dabs and fidget spinners, Class V has enjoyed some highlights.

Early on in the year we were visited by members of the Warwickshire Fire Service to explain fire safety in the home. Many children have taken part in Choir and Orchestra during celebrations such as Harvest Festival and Carol Service, and in the Easter service Class V led the Choir in a traditional Bible focused portrayal of the last week of Christ in 'Resurrection Rock'.

In the curriculum we have enjoyed building Bridges in DT, exploring water in Geography, interviewing parents in History about their fads and fashions from the last millennium and plant reproduction in Science. In Mathematics we have had great fun mastering skills and topics such as - factors, multiples, divisibility tests and compasses and in English we really enjoyed author visits, the author Mark Robson inspired the children to write their own stories. Class V have had champions on the track, on the pitch and in the pool. Members of our class also claimed prizes in the 'Interhouse Eggstravaganza', 'Cupcake Bake Off' and 'Show Us Your Talent'.

DREAM TREE

In PSHE, inspired by the song by Tim Minchin in Matilda the Musical, Class V have created their own dream tree of how they think life will be much easier, 'When I Grow Up.....'



Warwickshire Fire Service

In December Class V learned important life skills from Warwickshire Fire Service. Children considered how safe their homes were, how to make an escape plan and how hoax calls can cost lives.



Wrekin Maths

In March we had two teams travel to Shropshire to attend the Wrekin College Mathematics Challenge. Some 200 children tackled mathematical puzzles, problems and conundrums under timed pressure! Christopher, Samuel, Daniel and Oliver handled the pressure well. In the 'Hexagon' competition, Christopher and Samuel finished an impressive fourth out of thirty-eight pairs. In the 'Nonagons' competition Daniel and Oliver were placed first scoring nearly full points and came away as overall champions 2017.



Author Mark Robson

In January we were visited by children's author Mark Robson who writes fantasy fiction stories for older children and young adults. He spoke about using reaction and inspired the children to write their own stories. Reading his books is now a must for many of the children.



Art Clay Animals

In Art Class V made clay animals. They researched a variety of animals in the computer room before drawing and labelling their favourite one in their sketch books. They took about two hours to actually make them out of clay before painting them carefully. They are possibly the best class set of animals Mrs Byrne has ever seen! Well done Class V.



ROCK UK

Class V pupils ended the year with a memorable trip to the residential centre, 'Rock UK' where this year, it was all about the giant 'King Wire'!



Science States

In Science Class V have been learning that some solids dissolve in water to form solutions and that although they cannot be seen they are still there. They started by predicting and testing which solids dissolved and moved onto designing a variety of investigations to find out whether type of sugar, amount of sugar or temperature of water increased the rate of dissolving.



Survival

In Science Class V have been learning how to survive on a desert island. After learning about evaporation and condensation in the science room they took their designed experiments outside to use the sunshine to change sea water into fresh water that would be suitable to drink!

Class V Teacher: Mrs Forth

Oliver Bell
Matthew Browne
Connor Smith
Roman Thearia
Felicity Angell
Ella Knight
Katharine Last
Thomas Brinklow
Ethan Capelett
Dylan Hopkins
Gabriel White
Isabelle Clements

Georgia Dowling
Amelie Edge
Clara Woolf
Christopher Gibson
Henry Kilner
Samuel Lau
Daniel Pinks
Alex Reynolds
Rory Sarkies
Sophie Causer
Olivia Sarkies
Robyn Shaw

Class VI

Class VI is a such special year. There are so many highlights.

The children make their final preparations for exams whether it be 11+ or independent schools; it is a time where the community support them through a time that can make them worry. Class VI learn to have greater independence and responsibility through being a Prefect, being able to ring the lesson bell, handing out registers or being on door duty. They take the lead in the annual school production, this year it was Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. They take part in a week long residential, where they enjoy coastal walking, pond dipping, mammal catching and generally having a good time. Then before we know it, Class VI are ready to leave us, it is time to say good-bye to their friends and teachers as they move on to their senior schools of choice. Wherever they go to they always feel prepared for the next steps.



Narrative poem based on a nursery rhyme

There once was an egg
Who sat on his bed
And looked at the beautiful view
He wanted to see it better
So he read his morning letter
And set off for the best view

Humpty dumpty sat on a wall
And while he was he had a great fall!

He sat on the wall of his house
But then he saw a great big mouse
Rocking forward to get a better view
He accidently splat in poo!

Humpty dumpty sat on a wall
And while he was he had a great fall!

He had an ambulance come straight away!
They tossed his yoke and some of them joked
And of he was away!

By Alex Ashton

Maths Masters

Class VI love Maths and easily mastered using reciprocals to divide fractions! They also enjoyed the beauty and satisfaction of geometry with some extremely pleasing results. And there was no coasting after exams – they went on to learn about exponential functions as they got ready for Year 7. Our expectations are always high at Crescent!



Joseph

Crescent School were organising a play called Joseph and the Technicolour Dream Coat. Everyone in Classes IV, V and VI were in it.

The characters were:-

The 11 Brothers - played by Class VI;

Joseph – played by Josh in Class VI;

Potipher - played by Alex R in Class V;

Mrs Potipher – played by Eva in Class VI;

Jacob – played by James in Class VI;

Jacob's wife – played by me;

Pharo - played by Ed in Class VI and Butler- played by Nirmay in Class VI.

There are three teachers that made this colossal performance:

Miss Thompson, our Drama teacher; Mrs Barnes, who taught us all the songs and Mrs Lowe, who calmed everyone down and organised the fab play!

By Amelie Edge



RENDEZVOUS WITH A COMET

The first thing that caught your eye when we arrived was the rocket inside the cafeteria. Every now and again it would look like it was blasting off by counting down and the smoke would come out of the thrusters. We entered the challenge centre and were split into groups: astronauts and mission control. The astronauts were sent to space in a simulator while the other group headed to mission control. I was isolation and my job was to measure the mass of some potentially dangerous liquids so that mission control could calculate whether it was dangerous or not. To transfer the bottles from the shelf to the scale I used a robotic arm, eventually I managed to get a bottle on the scale and send an e-mail but when I reached for the next one I managed to knock it over. Then the siren rang because there was too much radiation so we had to evacuate and go back to earth. After a stressful few minutes we managed to launch the probe with time to spare. There were shouts of relief and joy all round.





Starting a story

On the 24 January the author Mark Robson came to Crescent school to teach Class V and VI about how he started to write his books and how to write the opening paragraph of a book. He was very interesting and talked a lot, comparing different aspects of different books' openings. He told us about the different types of story:

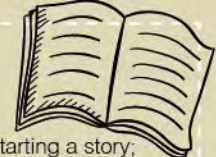
- man vs man (your simple bad guy vs good guy battle),
- man vs nature (this is if it is man vs natural disaster, man vs beast/animal or survival),
- man vs self (This is where someone needs to find the courage to do something and everything like that.)

He also taught us the three ways of starting a story;

- Dialogue
- Questions
- Action

You must definitely not start a story with facts such as: Sam stared over the wall [FACT] he checked no one was about [FACT] he jumped down [FACT] they heard him [FACT] and so on. He said that if you write a short story you must have no more than two main characters and that in a short story most authors will set their scene in just one descriptive sentence. He was a very good talker and very good at describing things. I think his tips will be very useful in times to come and I look forward to reading one of his books.

By Oliver Bell



Our Changing World

In September Class VI studied 'Our changing world' as their first Science topic. Plants and animals around our school were found and classified. Invertebrates were studied and habitats researched before bug houses were designed and made in groups. They were then put outside to attract a variety of visitors!



LANDSCAPES

During the Spring Term Class VI looked at a variety of famous landscapes and discussed which they liked and disliked. After learning about the foreground, mid-ground and background they set out to draw their own landscapes including features such as trees, hedges, mountains and roads before choosing which method to apply colour.



PSHE Life skills

In March pupils learnt how to place an unconscious person in the recovery position, a valuable life skill. Did you know the UK has one of the lowest bystander first aid rates in Europe?



Victorian History

Class VI investigated local Victorian history in Bilton. We went out to explore the area to see what we could learn by just looking a little bit closer.



Subjunctive Verb Shape poem

If I were a shape, I'd be a star,
I'd float in the sky, I'd be a shooting star,
I'd shine so bright, in the moon lit sky.

If I were a shape, I'd be a square,
I'd be a swirl chocolate bar,
Spinning and twirling and whirling,
In the scarlet sky.

By Katie Richards

Slapton Ley

In May Class VI visited the Slapton Ley Field Centre in Devon for their week long residential. There they had some well-deserved fun. They enjoyed extending their History knowledge at Grimspound Bronze Age village and developed descriptive writing skills in Whistman's Wood. Then for Science they learnt about the inhabitants of rock pools, and walked a coastal walk to study coastlines for Geography. They also tried circus skills with the circus toys they made – so that's Art and PE. It is never ending educational fun – at the Crescent always!



Class VI Teacher: Mrs Lowe

George Boyes
Owain Brown
James Latham
Jacob Thomson
Imogen Angell
Zahara Anwar

Arabella Darby
Eva Evans
Sophie Gray
Emma Sarkies
Alex Frere
Monty Hinde

James Robinson
Katie Richards
Abbi Smith
Alexander Ashton
Nirmay Patel
Joshua Stevens

Edward Thomas
Gracie Gibbons
Krupa Patel

Music

Brass for Bwengu

A combination of brass players from Crescent School and Bilton Silver Training Band took to the stage in The Temple Speech Room, Rugby in June.

Compère for the evening, Jack Fisher led the way and with 80+ brass players on stage, a varied and entertaining programme followed, including items from Crescent Mini Brass, Crescent Brass Group and Bilton Silver Training Band.

The young and talented Crescent School trombonist Felicity Angell, was the first soloist of the evening to be featured with a fine performance of The Pink Panther. This was followed by solo items from three talented past Crescent School pupils, Anais Huning on French Horn, Jodie Fisher on Cornet and Jack Fisher on Marimba, all performing with great skill.

A fantastic total of £1090.65 was raised for the Bwengu Project. It was an evening to remember. The smiling faces of so many young musicians said it all – playing a brass instrument is fun!



Brass Group



Discover the Classics

In January Crescent School Choir took part in a concert at Coventry Cathedral.

Entitled 'Discover the Classics', this concert was designed to give GCSE and A-level students the opportunity to hear live performances of some of their set works. Coventry's Saint Michael's Singers and the Warwickshire Symphony Orchestra performed works by Bach, Rossini, Bizet, Mussorgsky, Mozart, John Adams and the Beatles. The children's choir, made up of pupils from Coventry, Leamington and Nuneaton as well as from Crescent School, sang an arrangement of Lennon and McCartney's 'With a little help from my friends' and 'A whole new world' from Disney's Aladdin.

The concert ended with all performers and the audience participating in a medley from The Sound of Music with soloist Nadine Benjamin. It was a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to experience singing in the Cathedral with a choir and orchestra. We were very proud of their beautiful singing and their exemplary behaviour.



 **Choir**



Orchestral Day

Rugby School invited six Crescent School children to Rugby School Orchestral Day on the 10 October. Bilton Grange and Port Regis School joined the day as well.

There were strings, woodwind and brass groups. After we practised in our sections separately, we rehearsed all together.

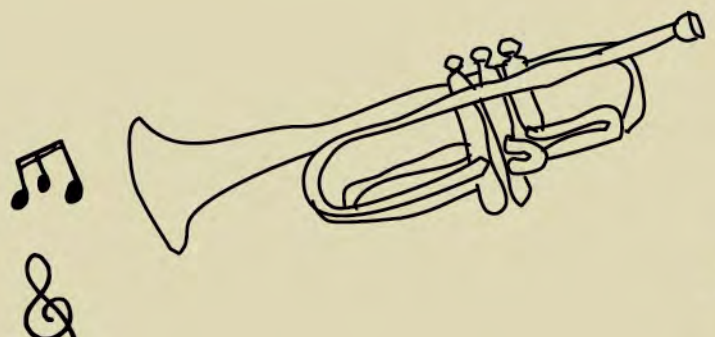
Later we performed to the parents in the Temple Speech Room. We are proud of ourselves that we learnt Symphony No. 36 and No. 4 and Hornpipe in a few hours.

Samuel Lau, Class V

Orchestra 



 **Mini Brass** #



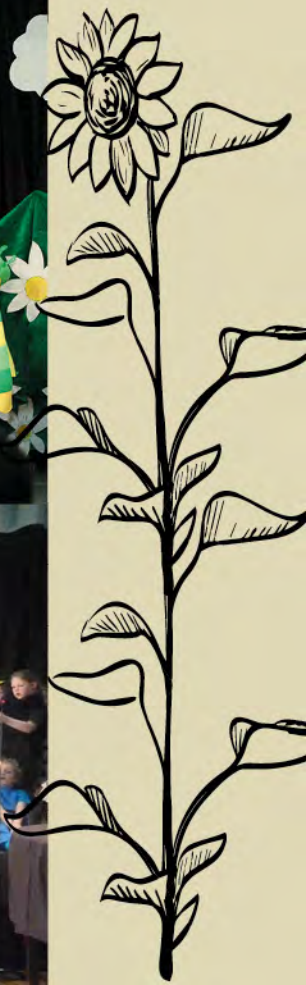
Drama



Our Sunflowers

Our delightful moosical "A Sunflower in our Supper" illuminated our Open Morning in March.

Children from Nursery to Class II wowed the audience with superb costumes, udderly wonderful singing, movement and acting and delivery of lines way beyond their years.



“ Congratulations to all of the children involved, the Crescent School is very proud of you.”



Prickly Hay

At Christmas, children from Classes I and II entertained parents and visitors with an all singing all dancing Nativity production of Prickly Hay.

A story of Sam and his friend Shrew who work hard to keep the stable clean for the animals.

They soon discover that their work is more significant than they ever could have imagined. The children's singing, speaking and acting was astounding. The performance loved by all who saw it.



Over the moon with outstanding LAMDA results

All 60 Crescent pupils who took the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) examinations in March passed.

20 pupils achieved a merit and 40 achieved distinction. 15 children scored over 90 and Hugo Hinde from Class III was judged perfect with a phenomenal 100.

The children prepared poems to perform. They were judged on interpretation, technique and knowledge. They had to consider their diction, expression and movement and had to be able to discuss their choices of poems with their examiner.

LAMDA exams equip the children with communication skills which will serve them throughout life. Congratulations to all of the children involved, the Crescent School is very proud of you.

The Sleepy Shepherd

Nature Trails Pre-School and Crescent Reception children performed the nativity play The Sleepy Shepherd.



Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat

In July pupils from Classes IV, V and VI performed Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat to an appreciative full house.

It was a fantastic, enjoyable, sing along production led by Class VI and featuring the School Choir.

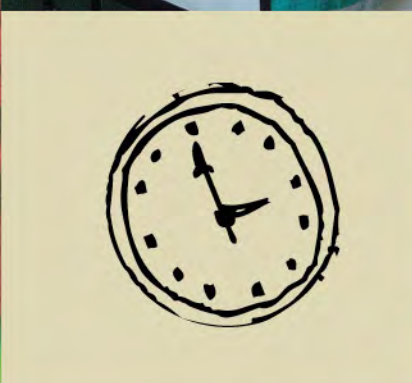
Mrs Forth commented "It was a special evening, thank you to the children for all their hard work and to the numerous staff who made it happen, in particular Mrs Lowe, Miss Thompson and Mrs Barnes. We hoped the sell-out crowd enjoyed it too."





Art and Design





Football



Our U11s were an all-round team of good players and did pretty well.

They came runners-up in The Princethorpe Tournament and narrowly lost out to Provost Williams (two academy players) in the ESFA competition. No team, no matter how strong they were, had an easy game against Crescent's U11s.

The U9s have epitomised the improvement children make at Crescent. Possibly the most energetic team Crescent has fielded, they were semi-finalists in The Kirkpatrick Cup and played impressively in friendlies. A special mention to Jamie Capelett who is a star player in the team but plays in defence rather than 'glory hunt.' Even in practice, he defaults to defence to hone his skills. They also had a plethora of more than able goalkeepers!

Girls football has been growing steadily and against Provost Williams, the girls passed creatively and struck the ball cleanly. A volleyed goal by Sophie Gray following a Georgia Dowling corner would have been a contender for goal of the season in any format of the game. The girls entered the ISA North Regionals at the impressive Carrington Training Ground, (formerly Manchester City's). They started brilliantly with a 3-0 win and then had up and down results. With the top two qualifying for The National Finals, it came down to the last game. With short eight minute matches, getting a goal was the main challenge but Crescent won a penalty. Georgia Dowling scored from the spot and everyone started dreaming but a late equaliser meant the girls had to settle for fourth place.



Tennis



Tennis is a growing sport at Crescent and the inter-school competitions were hotly contested.

We took an U9s and U11s team to The School Games competitions and both teams won and qualified for the Coventry, Warwickshire and Solihull Finals. In the Finals, the U9s finished 5th and the U11s just missed out on a medal, finishing 4th. Both teams were, independently of each other, awarded the 'Values' award for showing good sportsmanship and respect but also for competitiveness and determination. We were delighted because these are the values we instill in our pupils and they clearly shone through.

The children made a lot of progress in swimming.

Many times improved significantly although only a small proportion of the children are in swimming clubs. In the IAPS competition, the boys' relay team were reserves for The National Finals, as was Sophie Gray in the 50m breaststroke. Matthew Browne and Ethan Capelett both won their heats. In the Town Gala, Crescent were outstanding. Matthew Browne (freestyle), Fin Calder (backstroke), Jamie Capelett (breaststroke), Arabella Dughmoh (backstroke), Olivia Monk (breaststroke) Josh Gorbutt (breaststroke), George Bell (backstroke) and Marco Rodriguez Hernandez (freestyle) were all Town Champions and the Class III Boys, Class IV Girls, Class IV Boys and Class VI boys' medley relay teams all swam to victory.



Swimming

Cricket is another sport that has been on the up for a number of years.

So Crescent committed to hard ball cricket this year and set a tougher fixture list than in previous years. The children looked comfortable and successfully competed against bigger schools so next year the aim will be for the children to push on again.

The U11s were beaten by Bilton Grange and only dropped catches prevented them from progressing past Bablake in the Cup. They beat Crackley Hall and tied a game with Bedford. Roman Thearia was a revelation with his accurate bowling. The U9s were very impressive with victories against Crackley Hall, Solihull and Arnold Lodge. They were beaten by a strong Bedford team. Advay Pophali, Mehul Patel and Vignesh Sadasivan brought a lot of quality and experience to the team while Hugo Hinde impressed a year young.

Cricket



Athletics

At Crescent, we want the children to have transferable skills rather than be specialists.

In our first outing at the ISA Midlands Regional Athletics we finished 4th overall out of 31 schools. In their age groups Matthew Browne won the high jump, Lewis Darby won the long jump and sprint and Olivia Monk also won the sprint. They all qualified for the National Finals and in our first year in the competition we had two National medal winners; Lewis picked up bronze in the long jump and we were very proud that Olivia won gold, and became National Champion, in the sprint.

In the Town Athletics just Class III and VI competed. Matthew Browne won gold for high jump and he also picked up a silver in the throw. We also had silvers from Sophie Gray (high jump), Phoebe Causer (high jump) and Sienna Moran (throw) and bronzes from Joshua Gorbutt (throw) and Chloe Wensley (long jump). A great haul for such a small group that competed.



Cross-country

Our cross country team was a young side with only a smattering of experience but with an attitude of 'no fear'.



In the first race Oliver Bell finished 2nd, Georgia Dowling 4th, and all of the boys and two girls were in or just outside the top 20. That whet the appetite for the next two races; Oliver Bell finished top three in all, Felicity Angell (who fell in the first race) also made it into the top 20 and in one race all 6 boys finished inside the top 20. In the end Oliver Bell, Ethan Capelett, Ed Thomas, James Robinson, Monty Hinde, Georgia Dowling, Olivia Sarkies and Amelie Edge were all selected for The Eastern Warwickshire team to race in the Warwickshire Finals.

In the Warwickshire Finals Oliver Bell finished in a fantastic fourth place - the highest finisher for Eastern Warwickshire.

Our combined Prep and Pre-Prep Sports Day took place at the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Track in Rugby.

All of the events were hotly contested and there were lots of new school records set:

Class III	
60m Sprint	Amelie Frere 10.50 sec
High Jump	Phoebe Causer 0.97 metres
Class IV	
Long Jump	Lewis Darby 3.53 metres
Throwing	Mehul Patel 28 metres

Class V and VI	
800m	Oliver Bell 2 min 46.75 sec
Girls Long Jump	Olivia Sarkies 3.13 metres
Boys High Jump	Alex Ashton and Oliver Bell 1.13 metres
Girls Throwing	Georgia Dowling 33.59 metres
Boys Throwing	Alex Frere 39.74 metres
Relay (5x80m)	Red House 1 min 3.28 sec



Sports Day

Mr Marshall presented the trophy to the overall House winners - Yellow.

At the Crescent Sports Day it isn't just about the competition, it is all about the participation. Every child ran in a sprint and every child took part in an individual event and, most importantly, every child had fun. As is always the case the children's behaviour was impeccable, they offered support and encouragement to each other and congratulated and commiserated with good heart.



Hockey



A growing sport at the Crescent that, this year, bore the fruit of years of hard work.

The girls started the year with a win in the Princethorpe tournament with star performances from Abbi Smith (in goal), Georgia Dowling and Sophie Gray. The team went on to play in the IAPS competition for the first time; it was a challenge but they learned a lot.

The boys reached the quarter finals of the IAPS tournament last year and were hoping for more. Their first match against Kent College did not go well but things picked up and Crescent progressed to the quarter-finals. There they looked in control but the game finished 0 - 0, a tense penalty shuffle followed and Crescent progressed thanks to Ed Thomas. In the semis Chris Gibson was the hero saving the shuffle that sent Crescent to the Regional Final and, more importantly, to The Nationals. At the Nationals, Crescent played the eventual winners first and were outclassed. They played the eventual third place second and were dominant but everything conspired to keep the ball out. Crescent even missed a penalty flick following a foot on the line. It shows the fine margins in sport that the boys ended up not qualifying for the later stages.

The U9s hockey team, led by Fin Calder, were a wealth of developing talent, they won all of their matches this year beating Arnold Lodge, Bilton Grange, Bedford and Crackley Hall.



Initiatives



Pre-Prep Philosophy club - P4C



A number of specially invited Reception - Class II children came to join me for six weeks to open their minds a little more through questions, memory games, debate and deep thinking.

Let me share some of their 'Would you rather's':

- Sad or angry?
- Book or magazine?
- Apples or pears?
- Piglet or puppy?
- Cold or hot?
- School or home?
- Chocolates or sweets?
- Mrs Lowe
- Sweet or savoury?
- Hard cheese or melted cheese?
- Wink or blink?
- Wobbly teeth or no teeth?
- Long or short?



Accelerated Reading

All children from Class III upwards are on our Accelerated Reading programme, allowing them to read 'real' books at the correct level for them with many opportunities to progress if they aim for getting 85% correct in their quizzes (the children take a computer quiz after each book). If the children get below 85% then the level may be too hard, if they are getting 100% then the book is too easy. If something is too easy then children do not learn. The children are always guided on this by their teacher.

Class III

have read over 6 million words with 1 millionaire

Class IV

have read over 17 million words with 1 triple millionaire, 2 double millionaires and 5 single millionaires.

Class V

have read over 19 million words with 1 triple millionaire, 2 double millionaires and 2 millionaires

Class VI

have read over 14 million words with 1 triple millionaire, 1 double millionaire and 3 millionaires.

“ If the children get below 85% then the level may be too hard, if they are getting 100% then the book is too easy.”

In nine months the average reading progress made by Crescent School children is 12.5 months in Classes III-VI.



English for Parents

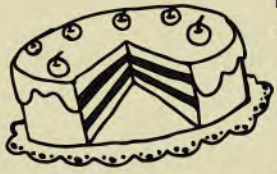
We continued with our popular English for Parents initiative and in February it was a pleasure for us to welcome parents in to work alongside their child. We are sure they learnt a lot!



Open Book Afternoon

Parents always enjoy our Open Corridor sessions where they have a chance to look at the displays of work but towards the end of the school year we ran a new event, an Open Book Afternoon. We had plenty of positive feedback from parents who enjoyed getting a much deeper insight into their children's learning.

A big thank you to everyone who has supported the Friends of Crescent over the year. In total we raised over £3,000 but more importantly we hope we've created some fabulous memories for the children.



During 2016-17 we put on seven market days (that's a lot of cake), three movie nights, one disco, a show us your talent competition, we organised Father's Day mugs, Mother's Day pots, Christmas bags, leavers' hoodies, a parents' quiz night, a parents' Christmas party, we walked around Draycote, ran a Christmas Bazaar and the Summer Fête.

Wow! All of this wouldn't be possible without the fantastic FoC team of Dads, Mums and Grandparents who give up so much of their time to make all this happen.

Do please follow our Facebook group Friends of Crescent so you can see our upcoming events etc. for this academic year.



Show Us Your Talent

There is no doubt that the Crescent School is a little school with big ambitions if the performances in the inaugural Show Us Your Talent contest are anything to go by.

In April we gathered expectantly in the school hall, and along with our special guest judges Simon, Sharon and Louis (aka Mrs Sarkies, Mrs Wells and Mrs Mistry) we were not disappointed.

There was plenty of "can't stop the feeling ... let's dance dance dance" and "you can tell everybody... that this is your song" moments as a diverse set of acts took us from dance and gymnastics, through comedy and impressions to music and songs. We were mesmerised by the musicians, amazed by the acrobats, dazzled by the dancers, charmed by the comedians and simply stunned by the singing.

Congratulations go to all of the pupils who performed and to everybody who had so enthusiastically auditioned, as we were only able to have three acts from each class.

“ There is no doubt that the Crescent School is a little school with big ambitions if the performances in the inaugural Show Us Your Talent contest are anything to go by.”



Trips

Harry Potter

On Tuesday 28 March 2017 Class V and Class VI went to Harry Potter at the Warner Brothers Studio

As we got off the coach, the first thing you saw was the massive warehouses (Stage J and Stage K) but if you looked to your left you could see the scaffolding from Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them. All of the Harry Potter films were filmed here at Harry Potter World. When we walked in the thing that caught your eye was the pictures of the actors and then the flying car.

It took a while to get inside but when we did it was AMAZING!!! We first went to the cinema where we watched how they filmed it and then when the screen lifted up the doors to the great hall were in front of you and when they opened you could see all the floating candles, the house tables and the fire place.

The next room had six sections:

- The Gryffindor common room
- Dumbledore's office
- The boys dormitory
- Quidditch
- Props
- Death eaters

And where you could have your photo taken on the green screen.

When we had finished that the next part was the famous train platform 9¾ with the Hogwarts Express and you got to go inside the carriages. (I'm trying not to spoil it too much for those who haven't been!)

Following this was the café where they served butter beer then outside was the Night bus, Privet Drive and a wonky bridge which I can't remember the name of! Then came the animal effects and Diagon Alley.

But the most amazing bit of all was a miniature version of Hogwarts Castle and when the lights dimmed the lights inside went on!

The very last thing we did was spend our £10 in the shop (everything is so expensive!) I bought a Gryffindor poster and a key ring.

I enjoyed Harry Potter World so much and I can't wait to go again

By Monty Hinde, Class VI



Whitemoor Lakes

At the beginning of May Class III pupils had a fabulous first residential trip away at the wonderful, purpose built, outdoor activity centre at Whitemoor Lakes.

The two-day trip gave them the chance to take part in lots of new and exciting activities and helped build confidence and self-managing skills, on what was, for some, their first time away from home.

Alongside the outdoor activities and sleeping in dormitories, the children loved sitting around the campfire, singing silly songs and toasting marshmallows whilst the sun set on a busy day. The perfect surroundings to 'have a go', work as a team and try something new.

Back in school Class III wrote up their memories:

'My favourite activity was climbing because I swung off the wall.'

'The campfire was fun but cold and windy.'

'The challenge course was the best thing – it was really fun.'

'It was scary when I was on the edge – I got more confident on every go.'

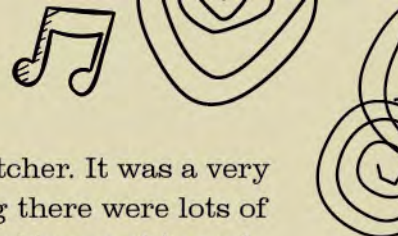
'Abseiling was so much fun - it was my favourite part.'

'We were allowed to eat marshmallows and hot chocolate.'

'I loved the midnight feast, except it was at 9.00pm.'



 **Peter and the Starcatcher**



We went to see Peter and the Starcatcher. It was a very good performance. At the beginning there were lots of people, some of them were going to ride one ship and some another.

All these people were on a mission, a mission for the queen. They had to bring a box with treasure to her, some people on one ship, (the faster one) would take the treasure to an island. The other ship with everyone else on however, took a box full of sand, the reason to bring a box full of sand was to fool people who tried to steal the queen's treasure.

The captain of the mission, who was very serious, was going on the faster ship, however his daughter had to go on the slower ship. The captain gave Molly (his daughter) one of two lockets, the other of the two lockets he kept himself.

During the long journey, Molly met three people, one of which didn't have a name, he was an orphan for so long he couldn't remember. He in the end became Peter Pan. You wouldn't believe it, but Captain Hook thought of his name "Peter", and a mermaid suggested "Pan" as his surname (stardust changed a fish into the mermaid, stardust changes you to who you want to be!)

They went on all sorts of adventures to get the treasure where it should be but in the end, they did it. My favourite bit was when they all dressed up as mermaids and sang the song.

By Emma Sarkies Class VI



Theatre Review

On Friday 9 December Class V and VI went to the theatre in Northamptonshire it was really fun!!

We went to see Peter And The Starcatchers. It was about a girl called Molly, who was a star catcher, and some evil pirates. Plus there was a boy called Peter. The story was very interesting it was like a story before Peter Pan. Molly's dad was going on a secret mission for the queen with some star stuff when the chest which had been on that ship went on the ship Molly was on by mistake.

My favourite bits were when: there were mermaids, whom were very funny, that were dressed like women but were actually men and when the pirates and orphan were fighting with toilet things.

Slowly we made our way back to school, but nobody complained. It was truly the best trip ever!

By Arabella Darby, Class VI



Think Tank



In July, Class I and II children went on an amazing trip to the Think Tank in Birmingham.

We got to go on a legendary hamster wheel and saw the biggest, splashiest bucket of water ever. We got to touch real animals and their skeletons. The shark jaw was ginormous! We could discover and press things and the Science Garden with all that water was the most fun!

By Class I



Staff Farewells

Huw Marshall

After 15 years at the helm of Crescent School Huw Marshall is bidding us a fond farewell and relocating to his native Wales with his wife Magda. There he will take up a challenge he put to one side some 37 years ago when he went into teaching, namely a two year course with the Welsh Church that could lead to his ordination.

Huw was appointed Headmaster of the Crescent School back in September 2002 having served, for the previous six years, as a Deputy Head and Director of Studies in another independent school, Handcross Park in Sussex. Prior to that he had spent 16 years in a number of schools both private and state-maintained teaching children of all ages.

Asked to reflect on his 37 years in education Huw comments, "It's about enabling people to be the best they can be, from the youngest child in Reception to your most mature member of staff, you are there for them, to support them, to help them believe in themselves."

Under his tenure Crescent school has gone through many changes, but the children have always remained at the centre of its ethos. The school promise which Huw introduced back in 2005 recognises this and its ethos as he says "become central to his philosophy."

In 2010 Huw became an inspector with the Independent Schools' Inspectorate using his wealth of knowledge of teaching and schools to support the wider educational system.

Huw has had so many wonderful experiences at the Crescent but when pushed for his fondest he cites the time in 2008 when the Class VI football team reached the National Finals of the English School's Football Association Championship and played on the hallowed turf of Wembley.

Paying tribute to Mr Marshall's time at the school, Deputy Head, Bryony Forth said: "Huw is highly thought of, he always has so much time for other people, listening to them and supporting and guiding, not only the children but also the parents and the staff of the school."

To celebrate his retirement, the school organised a special 'Welsh' send off for Mr Marshall, an Eisteddfod, a celebration of culture, with music and poetry performed by the children, speeches and a very special film put together by the Friends of Crescent of the children talking about their memories of Mr Marshall.



Anne Boys

Mrs Boys joined Crescent school in 1989. She has taught our broad curriculum to the children in Pre-Prep as well as teaching RE to Classes IV, V and VI.

Mrs Boys is renowned for her Geography topic of the Amazon rainforest. She was often asked by Class I children, "Are we going to make monkeys next year?"

Her classroom has always been filled with children's work, on display for all to see, giving then a huge sense of achievement as they see their work on the walls.

Mrs Boys has directed our Christmas Pre-Prep nativity for many years. She

has also led and put together our senior carol service at one of our local churches each year.

Her conscientiousness, belief in the children and her high standards has been a blessing to Crescent School. Mrs Boys will be missed and we wish her the best as she finds new adventures in her retirement.



Sandra Clayton

Mrs Clayton has taught at Crescent since 1979, with only a short period off for good behaviour to have her family. She initially worked as the Class II form tutor, but then took over the role in Reception in 1991. She is incredibly creative and finds beauty in everything; her displays both in her classroom and around the school are legendary.

She is leaving us for the very best of reasons: to care for her gorgeous new granddaughter, Eia. Mrs Clayton is the very embodiment of a Reception teacher and grandmother: kind, generous, fair, forgiving and a princess (as quoted by this year's intake)!

And of course, she does have her 'cupboard' - a mysterious treasure trove of a lifetime of teaching, collecting and hoarding. If you ever 'misplace' her, that's where she will be!



Leah Darby

Leah Darby leaves Crescent school this summer to begin a new family adventure in Oxford. During the last six years, along with her two children Arabella and Lewis, Leah has been an increasingly familiar and well-liked presence around the school as our regular supply teacher. Children from Reception through to Class VI have all benefited from her kind and gentle approach.

