



GAP Express

Top Stories

Educational Energy
Crucial Crew
World Maths Day
Peter Pan
Inspiring Author

GAP Express'
Christmas
Edition

Greenbank, All Saints' and St Patrick's Primary Schools work together to on the GAP project.

ALL ABOUT THE LOCAL WORLD WE LIVE IN

EXCLUSIVE NEWS

Energy Educational

Autumn Term Update

All Saints'

On Monday 19th October Year 6 took part in a Hakka workshop to celebrate the rugby world cup. They then went to the Lowry Theatre in Salford to watch the professional Hakka dancers perform.

Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 had some furry friends visit in November. They were delivered some duck eggs and were able to watch them hatch and start to grow. They then went back to live on the farm.

Saint Patrick's

Year 5 children have visited Saint Cuthbert's RC High School twice during the term. On their last visit they made their own radio jingle using brand new audio equipment!

Year 3 and 4 enjoyed their visit to Yorkshire Sculpture Park in October as part of their topic.

The children in KeyStage 2 are busy preparing for the Christmas Nativity. It is a little different to usual because all of the speaking and singing will be in Spanish!

Greenbank

Year 6 won the first inter-school competition for archery. Well done!

Nursery and Reception were amazing in their performance, 'Christmas with the Aliens' and everyone enjoyed watching it.

The KS1 children enjoyed a visit from two guide dogs, who came from Guide Dogs For the Blind.

For two weeks in the November, Greenbank took part in Switch Off Fortnight. They did this to educate both pupils and parents on how to become more energy efficient.

Mrs Finnigan and the Eco Council decided to take part in this national scheme to help them work towards their Silver Eco Award as well as thinking about how there is not enough fossil fuels to keep our electricity going.

They started off by sending out surveys to all parents about their energy usage. The pupils had to act as spies around their homes to see if they were being energy efficient. Most found out that a lot of families were putting lights and televisions on then leaving the room. Also lots were leaving items on standby. Did you know that even when on standby, electrical items can use nearly as much energy as when fully switched on?

In school the Eco Council looked around at different rooms and checked if lights and computers had been left on. If they had, they put a sticker on to remind everyone what should happen.

They also did assemblies for Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 about how to become more energy efficient. Kamrul from Year 5 said, "It's been useful and educational for us and our parents too."

Overall we are sure that Greenbank pupils and parents are now much more equipped to save energy and money and also have awareness of renewable energy sources.



Some of the Greenbank Eco Committee presenting the 'Switch Off Fortnight' Campaign Assembly.

Perfect Peter Pan Pantomime

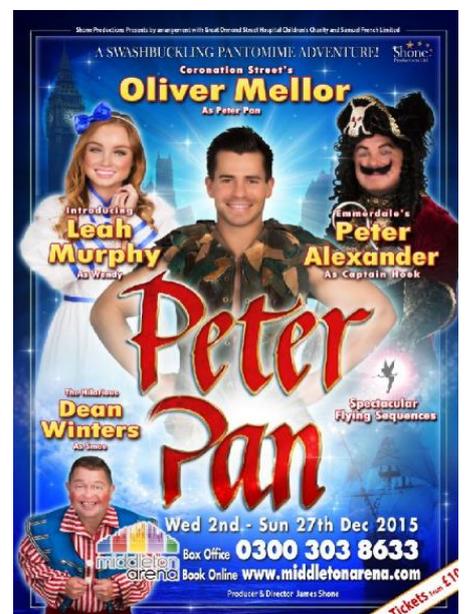
On 7th and 8th December 2015 all of All Saints' went to watch Peter Pan at Middleton Arena. We did this as a fun Christmas trip.

Firstly we had to travel to the arena by coach. All the children were excited, energetic and noisy. We couldn't wait to get there. When we arrived, there were two other schools there, Shawclough and Middleton Parish so there was a huge crowd.

When it started, it was all about a boy who refused to grow up. He met Wendy Darling and her siblings and took them to Neverland for lots of fun and adventures with the lost children, Tinkerbell and Captain Hook.

Amber from Year 5 said, "It was fantastic and the actors were really good." There was lots of singing, dancing and crowd participation especially from Mrs Berry, Easa and Charlie.

Overall it was an amazing show and we are really looking forward to Jack and the Beanstalk next year.



Have a fantastic Christmas holiday and remember...Keep safe and have fun!

Wow for Maths!

On 14th October All Saints' celebrated World Maths Day. Over 6 million students from 20,000 schools from all over the world participated. The aim of the day was to improve the children's confidence with numbers and in problem solving.

This was a whole school activity that took place from reception all the way up to Year 6. Every children played at least 20 games in an online competition against people all around the world. Altogether All Saints' scored 13,405 points and spent a total of 9,275 minutes online.

The online games started with addition and subtraction activities, then activities involving division and

multiplication and then finishing with problem solving games.

As well as playing games online the children also took part in problem solving and reasoning activities in the hall too.

The children were much more confident with maths after this experience. "The best part of today was being able to compete against other children from schools all over the world and getting better at different aspects of maths," said Harvey (Year 5).



For more news about our schools, please visit our websites:

www.greenbank.rochdale.sch.uk

www.allsaintsce.rochdale.sch.uk

www.stpatricksrc.rochdale.sch.uk

Inspiring author visits Greenbank

On 23rd October, an award-winning author, named SF Said, came to talk to the children at Greenbank Primary School. The children were very excited to learn how he persevered and overcame setbacks to become a successful author.

SF Said wrote his first novel, Varjak Paw, in 2003 and this won him the Nestlé Smarties Book Prize for Children's Literature. The children learnt about his struggles to get his first novel published and were amazed that it took over 17 attempts and 5 years to finally get it published. Despite this, it has sold over 275,000 copies in the UK. The children took great inspiration from his positive attitude and his motivating words of wisdom.

"I found it so interesting that it took SF Said so many attempts to write his book." Iqra, Year 5.

The children were left enthusiastic about literature and desperate to read SF's books as well as showing a great amount of respect for his commitment to writing.

They were excited to buy his books and SF Said very kindly signed and personalised their copies. Shamina, Year 6, quoted, "I was really excited that a famous author has signed my book and I will keep it for ever."



Our GAP Express journalists:

Harvey Kirkpatrick, Amber Nixon, Jessica Rose, Ambreen Zabar, Nimisha Datta, Zain Hussain, Fatima Gehlan, Abigail Chochol, Tara Abraham, Laura Bollington, James Lowe, Jacob Basquill, Faheem Hussain, Yusuf Islam, Khadijah Kousar, Piya Islam, Acacia Cecere and Shama Nawaz.



Crucial Crew

On Wednesday 11th November, the Year 6 children of Saint Patrick's school went on a visit to Crucial Crew, in Bury. Crucial Crew is a personal safety education programme, with different workshops and rooms covering many different topics including: keeping safe on the internet, cyberbullying, vandalism and road safety.

The children learnt about safety and why it is important to keep safe. They took part in team challenges and role play scenarios.

They also enjoyed the room called; I'm Being Me, where they could be themselves. They played games and had to choose if they wanted to be themselves and do what they believed was right, or would they go with the crowd?

Laura said, "It was good because you got to learn different things you don't usually learn in class. I really enjoyed it."

The Year 6 children learnt many useful safety tips, including not wearing dark clothes in the dark. This was important, because cars might not see you; always be yourself; don't talk to strangers. If you have been sent a nasty message online, do not delete it as it is evidence.

They also learnt to how important it was to be part of a team and working together. Jacob quoted, "I would recommend it because it was a lot of fun and you got a cool wristband!"



Water Park Fun

On Monday the 28th of September almost all of the Y6 children from Saint Patrick's went to Water Park in Lake District away from life at home. This was to help them learn about outdoor activities that are not available in school. They enjoyed a week full of entertaining activities that they will never forget.

The Y6's took part in many outdoor activities including canoeing, hiking, kayaking and an unforgettable journey day.

Mackenzie said, "It was very exciting when we did rock climbing because I got over my fear of heights and I never thought I would. I would recommend this trip to any Y6's because it is a stress relief and you can have loads of fun!"

After the amazing adventures they had done throughout the day, there was something that all the children were waiting for their dinner!



Saint Patrick's Year 6 at Water Park

The children enjoyed the lovely taste of lasagne, roast dinner, pasta, and a delicious chicken pie!

It was the most spectacular week that the Y6's have spent with their friends and their teachers. The children were so happy to be staying and were smiling throughout the whole procedure. However, by the end of the week they were happy to return home and see their loving family.

Mr. Lomax commented, "The children were very well behaved and extremely courageous all week. They had a fantastic time and left Water Park with memories which will last forever."



St Patrick's RC School