

Collett Catch-Up



Friday 7th October 2016

Collett Day

Saturday 8th October from 4:00 pm we will be celebrating Collett Day with a Cake Stall, Hot Dogs & Veggie Burgers, Sweet Stall, Refreshments, Hoopla, Bottle Tombola, Name the Bear, Ball in a Bucket, Lucky Dip, Raffle, Face Painting, Punch Balloons, Trampoline or Hollywood Bowl's Bouncy Castle Bowling. Come along with the family, have some fun!



Saturday 8th October
4:00 pm

Taz and Bert

Who are Taz & Bert? They are two of the goats at Oaklands College. Taz has a long thick beard and this week he also has a new friend – Bert. Bert seemed to be enjoying his new home and took a real shine to Miss Town. Miss Town found it hard to leave him behind. The pupils of Aspen Class also had a great afternoon at college. They played Badminton, had a go on the trampolines and watched a Table Tennis tournament. Next week they get to hold the piglets that were born last week. Apparently, they have already doubled in size. I wouldn't be surprised if Miss Town brings one back to school with her.

Chest Cavity

When I was at school my Science teachers were the typical men wearing tweed jackets that had leather patches on the elbows (yes I guess I am older than most of you). Not at all like the Science teacher we have at The Collett. Mr Linford, has made a model chest cavity to demonstrate how the diaphragm works to suck air into the lungs. He started off with a plastic bottle, balloon, straw, blue tack and tape. I am sure that if I had such inspirational science teachers at school I would not have blown up the lab.



Chest Cavity

Cookery

There has been the smell of apples in the corridor this week. Lower school have been making toast, Middle School Apple Crumble and Upper School Apple Pie. There were also a few Banana and Oat Muffins to demonstrate how you can use leftover bananas.

Donkey Sanctuary

It was lovely to see the donkeys from the sanctuary back in school on Thursday. Pupils groomed them while the donkeys stood as still as statues, their eyes closing with absolute joy. They then went for a walk around the playground. Pupils get so much from spending just a short time with the donkeys, it is lovely to see.

Travel Training

Post 16 have started their travel training and this week it was the turn of Charlie and Ollie. They walked to the local bus stop, checked the timetable and found that it was the number 3 bus that they needed to go into town. When the bus arrived they asked the driver for a return ticket and gave him the money. Whilst in town, they had a little stroll around the shops before getting the bus back. Charlie today showed Mrs Stocks, his writing about catching the bus to town. He explained perfectly each stage of his journey and wrote it as instructions. Checking the bus timetables and identifying which bus is needed is a fantastic life skill. Well done Charlie & Ollie!

Peer Mentoring

This allows our young people to support and model good behaviour to our younger pupils. It has been very successful and our mentors take it very seriously. We are extremely proud of them for modelling The Collett's principles of good behaviour and respectful interaction. We have re-launched the Peer Mentoring Scheme in the Lower School playground and would like to say thank you and congratulations to Connor for championing it.



Apples



University of Hertfordshire

This week we have been joined by six students from the University of Hertfordshire who are on a PCGE Primary course. They have spent the week in classes, working with the pupils and looking at the teachers' planning and school policies. It has given them the opportunity to experience a Special Educational Needs School on an informal basis. I took the opportunity to speak to several of the students today about their time here.

Emily said *"I was exhausted for the first two days but have learnt a lot about using visuals in the classroom. I was wowed by the assemblies and how the pupils are engaged and encouraged to take part. It is a happy school with lots of joy. The variety of abilities in one class can be massive but all the pupils are given work suitable for their ability. I would love to come back."*

Lynsey *"I have learnt a lot and love the way you teach Secondary Curriculum in a Primary style so all the pupils participate, are happy, comfortable and enjoy being here. The pupils have a great relationship with the staff and you get a real sense of family."*

Abbie *"I love the personal timetables and have seen so many little bits and sign language that I want to use when I have a class. The way the pupils come in and have breakfast in the morning is brilliant, I really like that."*

Poppy *"I was surprised you teach cookery through all the year groups, it is so important that the pupils learn about nutrition. I did cookery with Aspen and Fox Classes, which are Upper and Lower School so it was very different but both excellent. The pupils are learning important life skills. I have only thought about mainstream teaching but would like to know more about Autism and gain more experience to then work in a Special School."*

Volunteers

Before the summer holidays several brave people took to the skies to raise money for The Collett School. Mrs Lawton has provisionally booked the date of Sunday 11th June for Wingwalking and Tandem Skydives so if you are interested in an experience of a life time please contact Mrs Lawton via email on gillian.lawton@collett.herts.sch.uk



Achievements and Results

Friday Assembly

Happy Collett Day!

Today The Collett School is 52 years old. It was the first special school in Hemel Hempstead and when it opened in 1964 there were 25 pupils and 6 teachers. Now we have over 50 members of staff and 128 pupils. This year, for the first time, we have disabled access to the school and with the support of Warner Bros. plan to improve disability access within the building.

Carlo and Andy were in the spot light today. Andy has been working independently, his writing is beautiful and presentation immaculate. Andy then told everyone that 'this is the right school for me'. Carlo showed us all his fabulous homework and his work on Winston Churchill, who was the Prime Minister. Mr Hault-Allen was very impressed with Kevan and Jamie this week, he said 'they had achieved something that was great, that he still struggled with'... washing up!

Most weeks, during assembly, we have a 'Talent Spot' where a pupil or pupils sing, dance or showcase a different talent that they have. Mr Hault-Allen, dropped a bomb shell this morning saying that he is starting a 'Staff Talent Spot'. One member of staff who is in the lime light this weekend is Miss Thorp. She will be singing at the Royal Albert Hall on Sunday with Songs of Praise and I believe this is the first of other TV appearances this year.

Achievements

Bronze Award – James, Aneurin, Andy

Forthcoming Events

October Events

Saturday 8th October – Collett Day 4:00pm till late

Wednesday 12th October – No Pens Wednesday

Thursday 13th October – Parents' Listening Service 9:00 to 11:00

Friday 14th October – Coffee Catch-Up after assembly

Week commencing 17th October – RE Themed Week

Thursday 20th October – Spooky Stories Night (change of date)

Friday 21st October – Harvest Festival

24th – 28th October – Half Term Holiday (School Closed)

Mrs Rachael Lampey

The Collett School

www.collett.herts.sch.uk