

# Collett Catch-Up



The Collett School  
Special Educational Needs



**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018**

## PLAYGROUND OFFICIALLY OPENED

We had some special visitors today as Lord's Taverners – including regional chair Mike Keith, Derek Shepard and Sheldon Stoutt, with the support of Sky Sports cricket presenter Matt Floyd – proudly opened our redeveloped lower school playground. The charity had donated £20,000 to help us complete our project. They were overwhelmed by the kind words from staff and students alike – Robins had even made a thank you card and baked cakes! Stay tuned for more photos from the opening.



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### MARCH

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

Rosewood Assembly

World Book Day activities at Collett

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

International Women's Day

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Mar**

Science Theme Week

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March**

Redwood Assembly

Charity Firewalk, 6.30pm

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

Coffee Cake & Catch Up, 9.30

Open Tours, after assembly



## GRAB YOUR DIARIES!

**WORLD BOOK DAY ...** will take place on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at Collett.

The theme this year is 'Share a Story' and the aim is for everyone to share a story for at least 10 minutes. Every child will receive a £1 book token.

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY** ... takes place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March. As a way to celebrate the day, all girls can wear purple if they wish – this is the colour being used internationally this year. Classes will be participating in activities, in particular we will be highlighting the granting of the vote to women over 30 in 1918 and the ongoing battle for equality.

**Dates for the first term of the next academic year** have been released. Staff and parents/carers should note that Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September will be an INSET day, and autumn half term will run for two weeks again from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November. These dates can also be found on our website calendar.

## HEMEL ROCKS!

Robins Class are getting in on the Hemel Rocks craze sweeping the town! These beautifully decorated rocks will be hidden around the local area to be discovered by lucky town folk. Type #HemelRocks into Twitter and you'll see what all the fuss is about.



## KEEPING FAMILIES SAFE ONLINE

Gade Schools Family Support are hosting a workshop on Keeping Families Safe Online on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 7-9pm, at Gade Community Room, Chaulden Junior School, School Row, Hemel Hempstead. Online safety has become an essential life skill for adults and children. Delivered by Excite-ed TechSafe, a nationally recognised eSafety expert, our workshop aims to help you to manage your family's internet safety confidently by offering solutions to the stresses and worries of online risks. Find out how to set your parental controls on all devices, discover social media trends, understand how to manage online risks and know what to do if your child is cyberbullied.

To book please contact Emma Christie on 01442 278793 or email [christie.gadesfs@kls.herts.sch.uk](mailto:christie.gadesfs@kls.herts.sch.uk)

Visit us for more info. at

[www.collett.herts.sch.uk](http://www.collett.herts.sch.uk)

You can also follow us on

social media, find us on

Facebook, [Friends of Collett](#)

or Twitter, [@CollettSchool](#)

## QUICK REMINDER

**Oaklands College** open evenings and other key dates for this year can be found [on our website](#).

Our current school lunch menu is [available here](#).

We are a Nut Free School.

## OFFICE UPDATES

### NEW SIGN IN SYSTEM

Our sign in/out touchscreen in reception has been updated. We listened to staff and parents' thoughts about how to improve it. Not only is the system much safer but there is also the much needed class checklist feature (staff – please see the office about how to use this). On top of all that, it was installed for free!

## WHAT'S ON NEAR YOU

### SUNNYSIDE EASTER SCHEME

Sunnyside are hosting an Easter Fun Growing Scheme to grow food, make crafts and find new friends. Teenagers with learning disabilities

## **WORLD WHEELCHAIR AWARENESS DAY**

On Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, from 12 pm to 1.20pm, Watford FC CSE Trust will be working with Herts Disability Sports Hub, London Titans and Aspire PFC to offer nine to 25 year olds the opportunity to try out different sports, including wheelchair basketball, wheelchair athletics and wheelchair football. This includes a free ticket to watch Watford vs West Brom. If you would like to attend, please use the following link:

<https://watfordfccsetrust.com/world-wheelchair-awareness-day>

If you would like further information, please contact Karen Stephanou, Watford FC's Disability Football Development Manager, on [Karen.stephanou@watfordfc.com](mailto:Karen.stephanou@watfordfc.com) or call 07841028229.

## **HOW TO TALK ABOUT PUBERTY TO THOSE WITH SEN**

A new talk by Robyn Steward, 2015 winner at the Autism Professionals Awards, focuses on discussing puberty with your SEN child. Robyn is a trainer, helping people to better understand autism, and is also an author, consultant and musician – she is also autistic herself. On top of her recent 2015 award, Robyn has also recently been nominated for the Shaw Trust Disability Power list.

The date of the talk is Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 10am to 1pm, at Link Family Services Community Room, Hobletts Manor Junior School, Adeyfield Road, Hemel Hempstead. As parking onsite is limited, please park on Adeyfield Road.

Topics to include how the child's disability affects their understanding of puberty; how to discuss body parts and changes in the body; how to discuss inappropriate and appropriate behaviour; how to discuss sexual relationships; and keeping vulnerable young people safe with regards to consent and how to teach assertiveness.

To book a place please contact Ashley Fabray on 07525 917 125 or email [fabraya@kls.herts.sch.uk](mailto:fabraya@kls.herts.sch.uk)

Places are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment, and please note that this course is only open to Dacorum parents/carers.

## **FRIDAY ASSEMBLY**

Sandalwood hosted today's assembly, showcasing their favourite work from this term so far. Harvey introduced their video, which had each

aged 16 and above are invited to come along on 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of April from 9.30am to 3pm at the Hemel Food Garden, Two Waters Road, Hemel Hempstead. Costs are £20 for one day and £15 for subsequent days. Book your place or get more information by emailing

[farida@sunnysideruraltrust.org.uk](mailto:farida@sunnysideruraltrust.org.uk) or phoning 07539339446.

## **WATFORD FC DISABILITY SESSIONS**

Free inclusive disability sessions are provided by Watford FC every for boys and girls aged eight to 16 and 16 plus. Sessions are also available from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February to Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March, £2 per session or £10 block term booking. These sessions are located at Meriden Community Centre, Garsmouth Way, Watford. Fully qualified coaches provide a safe and fun learning environment for all sessions. Please contact Karen Stephanou for more information (see World Wheelchair Day, left).

## **ONLINE THIS WEEK**

[The BBC reported](#) that scientists have potentially found a breakthrough in Autism diagnosis.

## **QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

*"There are many ways of going forward, but only one way of standing still."*

pupil showing off their best pieces of individual work, ranging from Josh's intricate portrait to Abigail's DVD cover. Phoebe had made some riddles and Harvey was keen to show off his science skills when the class had planted seeds. The class finished off by showing a video of a dance routine that they had practiced. Great work, guys!

Mr Houlton-Allen took over and focussed on the Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea. He showed various photos, including the bobsleigh track and some speed skaters in action, and asked the students what they knew about the events. Many of the children talked about snowboarding, ice hockey, ski jumping and curling – the latter of which Acacia have been watching in class. Josh from Ravens was keen to point out that the champions got medals, which brought Mr Houlton-Allen to his next point – Great Britain was 18<sup>th</sup> in the standings, with Norway in 1<sup>st</sup>, but this was a remarkable achievement for a country with so little snow!

### **Spotlight**

First in the spotlight were Lord's Taverners, who donated an incredible £20,000 to support our lower school playground redevelopment. The team have previously visited the school to help with other smaller projects, but this recent project has certainly not gone unnoticed. Mike Keith, the regional chair of the charity, talked about their history. Lord's Taverners have been running for over 60 years, supporting disabled children in sporting events. In recent years, the charity has supported special needs schools to improve their sporting activities and promote health and wellbeing. They offer table cricket, boccia and wheelchair sports equipment and sensory rooms to schools across Hertfordshire and raise money via charity lunches and auctions throughout the year. Matt Floyd spoke about how the playground can help develop motor skills and coordination as well as social skills, even saying "I can't wait to have a go myself!"

Next up were Thomas and Leena. The Wrens classmates had both gone above and beyond in their art lesson and conducted some brilliant independent work about famous statues and their poses – Thomas had written about them whilst Leena had labelled them. Meanwhile, Redwood class were also in the spotlight for their outstanding cooking recently. Great work from everyone!

Finally, we said goodbye to Mr Whippey, who has served Collett for the

Franklin D. Roosevelt

### **FACT(S) OF THE WEEK**

Noriaki Kasai is a Japanese ski jumper. Pyeongchang is his 8<sup>th</sup> Winter Olympics and he wants to compete in the next two to become the first person to reach 10 Winter Olympic Games. He is currently 45 years old. One person has reached 10 Summer Olympic Games – Canada's Equestrian hero, Ian Millar. He has yet to retire at 71 years old.

*BBC*

### **AWARDS**

#### **SILVER AWARD**

Ellie, Jacob & Charlie, Rosewood  
Kerrie, Danny, Redwood  
Uzair, Linden  
Tommy, Wrens

#### **GOLD AWARD**

Maddox, Mason, Bailee & Jack,  
Elder

#### **READING AWARD**

Carla, Linden  
Alex, Ravens

#### **SINGER OF THE WEEK**

Olivia & Luke (Middle School)  
Josh (Upper School)

Congratulations to all of you – we are so proud of all of your achievements!

past few years and become a popular figure amongst students and staff alike. Mr Houlton-Allen had a few words to say: “We’re proud to have had you as a staff member here and you have done some fantastic work – it goes without saying that we’ll miss you, and good luck in your next job!”

### **What’s New Scooby Doo?**

Ethan from Sandalwood took charge this week, and Sophie from Robins was first on his list. She said that her mummy and daddy were married a long time ago ‘when dinosaurs were around’ – what a way to start your prospective reporting career, Ethan clearly has the knack for it! There’s also plenty of birthdays and parties that the children are looking forward to – it’s going to be a busy weekend!

**Thank you for reading!**

***Mr Harry Crawford***

***The Collett School***