

Committee(s) Board of Governors of the City of London Freeman's School	Dated: 29 November 2018
Subject: Report of the Head of the Junior School	Public
Report of: Matt Robinson (Head of Junior School at Freeman's)	For Information

Summary

This report details what has happened in the Junior School at Freeman's since the start of the academic year 2018-19. It lists staff news, pupil activity and achievement.

Main Report

Staff News

1. We have two new members of Junior School staff this academic year: a new Junior School Form Tutor who is leading U2F, and one of this year's Graduate Assistants who is supporting the Form1 staff as a Teaching Assistant. Both have settled in extremely well: Our new Form Tutor has assumed the responsibility for Running Club and will become the KS2 History Co-ordinator in January 2019, and our Graduate Assistant has been on DofE expeditions and joined the CCF.
2. After a year in post as Head of Lower 4, a member of staff started this year as Head of Upper 3 but left us at half term to have her first child. She has been replaced temporarily by a member of staff responsible for a Head of House role which is now being covered by another member of staff. Both are well suited and qualified for their new roles, and have started well.

School Roll

3. One girl from Lower 4 left us after half term. The current JS roll is 397.

Academic

4. Extras to the curriculum this year have included various trips (detailed below) a Biology talk for Upper 3 and Lower 4 entitled Animazing, the author Megan Rix spoke to Freeman's children and guests from local maintained primary schools, and a photo competition of the most unusual place a book was read over half term was very entertaining. On 16th November Mexicolore visited Lower 2, enthusing with a love of the Aztecs, and Lower 2 and Upper 2 enjoyed the Science Dome (in our own foyer) to learn about astronomy earlier this month.

Trips

5. This term, already Form 1 journeyed to Butser Ancient Farm and spent an afternoon at the Red House with the octogenarian residents playing board games, Upper 2 visited Bough Beech Reservoir, and Upper 3 were toured around Battle and Pevensey. The Upper 2 and Lower 3 girls were treated to a trip to watch GB's Ladies' hockey team play Belgium. Colleagues were delighted by the children's behaviour and engagement.

Charity

6. As ever the term started with presentations from the children, canvassing for votes for their charity to be chosen by the Junior School community to be supported through the year. The human charity that was "elected" was Canine Partners and Born Free was chosen as the animal charity.
7. We wore Jeans for Genes day on 21st September and will be supporting the BBC Children in Need appeal on 16th November.
8. The FSA and the Junior School continue to work closely, not least in preparation for the Christmas Fair. Two members of the FSA spoke at a recent assembly to discuss raffles, prizes, mufti and the fair itself. I was told that the fireworks evening was populated mostly by Junior School families.

Arts

9. The Recital room has already hosted a number of concerts, and children from Form 1 to Upper 6 have impressed us with a variety of instruments, individually and in ensembles and orchestras.
10. On Monday 26th November the Lower 4 cast will perform an abridged version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the GLive theatre in Guildford. Our Director in Residence is very excited and confident that the actors and technical team will do the school and themselves proud.
11. 3D printer club has started with great interest from Upper 3 and Lower 4 children. Our Head of Technology has been hugely impressed by the children's ambition.
12. The foyer is awash with glorious 2 and 3-dimensional work created by the children over half term for the House Art competition, the theme of which is Engineering. I hope that governors will have seen some of the photos on the website and Twitter.
13. Summer Music grades were published at the end of September: Junior School children achieved many passes, merits and distinctions, including five Grade 5s, and two Grade 6s.
14. A Ballet taster took place in October, which was attended by 15 children from Keystage 2. We continue to improve our extra-curricular provision (due in part to the excellent work of the Head of Boarding and Co-curricular).

15. Form 1's At home spectacle was another splendid success on 15th November. Parents, very young siblings and grandparents were royally entertained by songs, recitals, shared experiences and tea and cake.

Sport

16. Our fencing girls continue to impress: A L4M pupil won silver in the National U12 5th Elite Epee (losing the final by one point).
17. Meanwhile a pupil new to L4(M) this year came in top 8 in a recent U17 Sabre competition; she's 12! Over the summer she had won the U13 equivalent competition.
18. Two pupils from L4N and U2V won recent golf tournaments on the Surrey Rookie tour. Twin sisters in U2S have been selected to join the Surrey Girls' Golf Development Squad.
19. A pupil in L4Z has recently been selected for the U13 Surrey Hockey performance squad.
20. In the South East Regional Biathlon Championships (in early October) a L3IR pupil came 4th in his year group, automatically qualifying for the British Championships later in the year.
21. Six colleagues took children from Lower 4 to Jersey on a co-ed sports tour over half term. The girls played hockey and netball and the boys played rugby and football matches against clubs and other schools. All, including the teachers, had a splendid time.
22. A L4Z pupil won two Working Hunter classes last month at the Mid-Surrey Pony Club. She was presented with a shield and the most enormous trophy in assembly.

Conclusion

23. Much has occurred already this term, demonstrating what a vibrant and exciting place the Junior School is, for children, parents, staff ... and governors.

Matt Robinson

Head of the Junior School at Freeman's

T: 01372 822474 E: matt.robinson@freemens.org Twitter: [@JuniorFreemens](https://twitter.com/JuniorFreemens)