

<b>Committee(s)</b>	<b>Dated:</b>
Board of Governors of the City of London Freeman's School	06062019
<b>Subject:</b> Report of the Head of the Junior School of Freeman's	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Matt Robinson (Head of Junior School at Freeman's)	<b>For Information</b>

### Summary

This report details what has happened in the Junior School at Freeman's since the February report. It lists staff news, pupil activity and achievement.

### Main Report

#### Staff News

1. ■ left us at the end of last term and her timetable has been carefully shared around existing staff. A new teacher of DT has been appointed and will start in September.
2. ■ is due to return from maternity leave in the term's final week. ■ who has acted in her place will assume the responsibility of Assistant Director of Sport across the school from September.
3. ■ (Head of L3) will assume a second responsibility of Head of Junior Sport across the school from September.
4. Nearly all KS2 teachers will move year groups within KS2 over the summer, and we introduce a number of new staff into U3 and L4. The Heads of Year will remain for 2019-20 but will move for September 2020.

#### Academic

5. Recruitment has been strong into the JS again. We are developing the balcony classrooms to increase capacity and U3 will start 2019-2020 at 82. We expect the JS role to be 396.
6. ■ continues to develop the JS assessment strategies with ■ and under the supervision of ■ and ■. Staff and parents are appreciative of the information about the children and its assistance in planning lessons.

7. In March, Our Junior Maths team (consisting of two L4s and two ex-JS U4s) came 1st ahead of 21 other schools in Surrey. In winning, they qualified for the National Finals in June.
8. Three L3 boys, ■■■, ■■ and ■■■ all won places in the final round of the Primary Maths Challenge - the national mathematics competition, achieving two bronze medals and a silver for ■■.
9. On April 1<sup>st</sup>, Georgina Iceton (OFA) returned to the school to discuss her career in the music industry and where her love of music had started. She became quite emotional when she heard that Mr Dodds was still at Freeman's.
10. Junior Astronomy club grows in size and ambition. Water rockets were fired into the air from a recently erected temporary launch pad to the whole group's huge delight.

## **Trips**

11. City Day was the annual pilgrimage triumph; we worshipped in St Mary-Le-Bow, ate in Guildhall and then learned in Museum of London. The L4 children were a credit to us all.
12. In early March the Lower 4 Geography trip to Kingston to study city planning was interesting in many ways. The children learned about civic responsibilities and I ended up in the Kingston hospital with an allergic child!
13. I joined the L3-U4 scholars on a trip to Bletchley Park at the end of March. Led by ■■■ (Head of Scholars) the experience was enjoyed thoroughly by children, and was followed up with a Cryptic crossword seminar in early May. Do we have budding spies in our midst?
14. On April 3rd, ■■■ and her colleagues took the whole of the Lower 2 year group to Hampton Court Palace as part of their History curriculum. We were complimented on the children's behaviour.
15. ■■■ led another hugely enjoyed JS ski trip to Montgenevre, of which there are hundreds of photos on the JS Twitter feed. 8 staff and 60 kids had a blast, such that I have threatened to join them next year!

## **Arts**

16. In March, a string ensemble represented us at the St Christopher's Music concert. The children performed Mozart Piano Trio in G, and their verve and skill were hugely appreciated.
17. The Spring term music grades are in. 3 x initial grades, 34 x grades 1, 2 and 3, 7 x grade 4, 3 x grade 5 and 1 grade 6 from a Lower 3 girl.

18. So too have the children been achieving impressively in their Lamda exams. I handed out over 50 certificates in assembly in mid-May, including nine grade 4s, which are rare for children younger than 14.
19. The talent shows in March were great successes with many children from U2 to L4 performing songs, dances, skits and stand up. Full house on each night led long applause at the evenings' ends.
20. The Lower 3 play, *Scheherazade*, which played to Lower Juniors, visitors from St Christopher's and, for two nights, to parents, was a glorious explosion of colour, sound, dance and mystery. Some brilliant performances were supported by the whole year group's involvement. I was very proud.
21. A number of children have personal musical experiences out of school but three are worthy of mention here: ■■■ of U2 played violin and piano at a Richmond Music Festival. She came third in Own Choice Solo Piano (9-10 years) and came first in Junior String Concerto for violin. ■■■ of U3 took part in the 'Music is for Life' concert at the Royal Albert Hall as a member of the Merton Youth Concert Band. In March at the Godalming Festival ■■■ (L3) won, with Distinction, the 11 Years and Under, String Recital class, for the second year running.
22. In early May, the Lower 2s held a special tea party, reciting poetry, singing songs and dancing for their grandparents. The children sat at tables after their performances and helped the septuagenarians eat the fairy cakes.

## Sport

23. ■■■, who joined us this year, has continued to do wonders with JS running. We continue to produce superb cross-country and middle/long distance runners; indeed, at the recent District championships the Middle Junior girls won for the fourth year running.
24. ■■■ (Head of Sport) and his colleagues have further developed their new approach to F1 and L2 children trying all sports irrespective of gender due extra squad sessions. Presently cricket is the no 1 choice ... by far.
25. Our U11 swimmers represented us expertly at the East Regional Primary Championships! The girls came 8th in Medley Final; the boys were 3rd in Medley Final and qualify for the Nationals in June.
26. We are producing some decent tennis players in the same age groups: both U10 boys and U11 girls reached the semi-finals of the Southern District tennis finals.
27. As ever there has been lots of fencing success, so blessed are we with our four brilliant U3 and L4 girl fencers. Certainly, the highlight was ■■■, ■■■ and

■ securing silver medals in the British School Fencing Championships in March, adding to the gold medals they won in 2017 and 2018.

28. Cricket is growing throughout the school, as the Junior girls are now playing it as their major summer sport. Some U12 girls are playing with a hard ball, and will have played in a hard ball match with the boys by the governors' meeting.

## **Conclusion**

29. I should like to draw Governors' attention to our Twitter feed which will keep you up to date with all Junior news.

## **Matt Robinson**

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