

NEWSLINE

North Primary School and Nursery

A Town Centre School with a Strong Community Ethos

May 2019
Issue 1



Once in a Lifetime Experience - Roboteers Return Governor's Corner

An exhausting journey lasting 19 hours was well worth it. Here, are the highlights from Governor Ben Addley's report. Overleaf are a couple of photos capturing the team's return to school, when the whole school came out to welcome them home. A magical moment.

"Sunday 28th was the first day of competition and in the morning the North Team travelled the short distance to the Kentucky Exposition Centre (KEC) to set up, decorate the teams 'Pit Area' and to meet other competing teams. The World Championships are split into an Elementary section and a middle school section with each section comprising 5 divisions. Each division has about 85 teams with a total of 428 teams competing in the Elementary section in total.

Day 1 was about preparing, and practicing as well as getting a few skills tasks under our belt. The second day of the competition but the first full day with a start at 0730, a parade of nations (think Olympics opening ceremony) at 0830 and our first competitive match up at 1003. We were placed in Chandra Division along with over 80 other teams from countries all over the world. The US was heavily represented as was China, but there were teams from Finland, Estonia, Taiwan, Columbia, South Korea, Philippines and Costa Rica.

Day 3 and our final day of competition centred on completing the remaining match ups followed by the division finals and grand finals in the 25,000 seat Freedom Hall Arena. The North School team did amazingly well, finishing 63rd in the world for the skills based challenge and 57th in our division. It should be noted that we were in the top ranked division with both our top 2 teams progressing to the grand final where they finished 1st and 3rd in the elementary category and actually scored more points than the middle school category. Our overall ranking is 110th in the world. To put that into context, there were over 400 teams competing at the world championships in the elementary section alone and over 24,000 teams originally started on this journey at the beginning of the year from across the globe. Our North School Roboteers, having never had any previous experience, rose to the very top, were competitive against many, many teams who have bigger budgets and have been competing for longer. They finished as the top UK elementary team (by quite a distance) and have set the bar very high for all future UK teams who aspire to compete.

It should be noted the children and teachers all worked extremely hard throughout the visit with most days running over 12 hours of work. The children represented their school, town and country really well. They were well behaved, polite, engaging, enthusiastic and took every opportunity offered to them. Throughout the entire journey, from the flight out to Detroit, throughout the competition and the flight back from Atlanta, fellow passengers, fellow competitors, teachers, coaches and parents all commented positively on our young robot team. They were a credit to the school and should be very proud of themselves.

It is really important to note that this trip was fully funded by 3rd parties. The school did not fund any element due to the extreme financial constraints we find ourselves under. The school generated extensive sponsorship in excess of £12,000, the vast majority from corporate sponsors not previously associated with the school. The 2 teachers and 4 children were fully funded throughout the visit with the 3 parents making significant contributions to travel and accommodation costs as well as paying for all their own meals and drinks. This enabled the school to register and attend this event. Without these charitable donations there is no way the robotics team could have attended this World Championships.

I would like to formally recognise Mrs Walker's efforts in making this visit happen. Not just the logistical elements but also all the time she puts into the club to make it the success that it is. Without her tireless efforts, often in her own time and often at her own expense our team would not have achieved the success it has done." *Editor's Note: It must also be recognised that the trip to Kentucky was only possible because of Ben's amazing commitment and success in attracting sponsors.*



Visit The Daily Gazette online and you will see a lovely report of 20 lucky Year 3s visiting Alderwood Care Home on the 29th April. Pictured, from left to right with James, Kacper and Leo are: The Mayor of Colchester, Peter Chillingworth, resident Joan Evans, author Jason Cattrell and resident Margaret Hirst. The children had a great time at the Home, meeting a real author, meeting the Mayor and Mayoress, sharing books and listening to residents' stories of their childhoods. They all enjoyed a very nice lunch too. A big thank you to Alderwood Care Home and in particular manager, Laura Birch for making this happen.



**5&7 HEINZ
VARIETIES**

**BINGO NIGHT
COMING SOON
DON'T MISS OUT
BOOK YOUR
TICKETS TODAY**

PENNY RACE

**WHO WILL WIN
THE SHIELD
THIS YEAR?
FEEL DOWN THE
SIDE OF YOUR
SOFAS AND FIND
THE TREASURE**



FUN RUN

**SPONSORSHIP
FORMS OUT
SOON FOR HILLY
FIELDS**



TERM DATES

Friday 10th May	NSA Bingo Night	6.00pm
Monday 13th May	Year 6 SATS Week	
Thursday 23rd May	New Parents (September 2019) Meeting	6.00pm
Friday 24th May	Penny Race	
Friday 24th May	Children's Sponsored Fun Run at Hilly Fields	Details to follow
Friday 24th May	Last day of half term	
Monday 3rd June	Return to school	
Friday 7th June	NSA Quiz Night	
Tuesday 11th June	Class Photographs	
Wednesday 12th June	Nursery Open Afternoon	4.00pm—5.00pm
Wednesday 12th June	Y5/6 RSE Meeting for Parents	6pm and 7pm
Thursday 13th June	Fathers' Day Lunch	Booking required
Friday 14th June	KS2 Free For All Enterprise Show	Details to follow
To be confirmed	Nursery Sporty Morning	
To be confirmed	Nursery Sporty Afternoon	
Tuesday 25th June	KS1 Sports Afternoon	afternoon
Wednesday 26th June	Reception Sporty Morning	
Wednesday 26th June	KS2 Sports Afternoon	afternoon
Tues 2nd and Wed 3rd July	KS1 Enterprise Show	
Friday 5th July	NSA Summer Fete	6.00pm
To be confirmed	Parents "Meet the New Class Teacher" Meetings	
Wednesday 17th July	Year 3 Music Concert	morning
Wednesday 17th July	Year 4 Music Concert	afternoon
Thursday 11th July	Music Concert Evening	Details to follow
Thursday 18th July	Year 5 Battle of the Bands	afternoon
Friday 19th July	Open Evening	
Monday 22nd July	Year 6 Show	evening
Wednesday 24th July	Last day of School Year	
Monday 2nd September	Year 6 residential to Weymouth	
Thursday 5th September	First day of new school year	
Friday 25th October	End of half term	
Tuesday 5th November	Return to school	
Thursday 19th December	End of Autumn Term	