

School Newsletter July 2015

Caerleon

Back in May we went on a school trip to Caerleon in Wales to see the ancient Roman ruins there. The first thing we saw was the ruins of the barracks. The walls were mainly knocked down, but you could still see the layout. The Centurion would have had the biggest room because he was most important.



You would have to share the toilets with anyone else who was there, then use a stick with a cloth on to wipe yourself, which would then be washed out and used by the next person.

The next thing we saw was the amphitheatre where the gladiators would have fought. It was huge! The most important person had a special place to sit in. The slaves and women would have the seats near the back so they wouldn't see the blood and mess.

After seeing the Amphitheatre we went to the baths and we saw what would have been a bath with a special projected picture on the floor which looked like water. We also went to the museum (we were set the challenge of finding a Roman footprint). We also went to a Roman house and did a role play of a dinner party, half of us were rich Romans and half of us were slaves. Then we went back to school. It was a great day out.

By Rebekah Malcolm

Local Studies

On Fridays over the past term we have been finding out about the village of Westerleigh and famous people from the area near(ish) the school.

To start with we learnt about William Tyndale, who was a tutor in Little Sodbury Manor (he is famous for translating the bible into English). We also found out a bit about Edward Jenner, who was born in Berkley but worked in Chipping Sodbury for a while (he is famous for his role in eradicating Smallpox). We could then choose someone to research about ourselves, but they had to come from or be linked to Bristol in some way.

Miyah, Rebekah and Dan all researched Hannah More; Rufus and Isaac worked together on George Muller; Matthew, Immie, Molly and Toby did Isambard Kingdom Brunel. We all presented our findings in different ways – PowerPoint, poster or as a speech.

We know that whoever we are, we are important to God and we were reminded to be ambitious to serve Him because that's the most important thing.

By Miyah Malcolm

Gideon Bibles

A few weeks ago we had a visitor to school called Mr. Chapel. He was from a group called the Gideons. He told us about a boy called John and his mother told him to promise her something just before she died and that was to read a section of the bible each day. When he was older he made friends with a group of Christians who were keen to see the bible read. They called themselves the Gideons.

They grew to become a big organisation, now working in countries all over the world and distribute bibles. At the end of his talk he presented each of use with a Gideon new testament and Psalms. We are very thankful for them.

By Imogen Barber

Church Tower

On the 5th June 2015, we went up the church tower.

First we went to a room above the vestry. We had to climb up a ladder and through a little trap door into the room. There Martin (the bell ringer) rang the bell and we learned some facts about the bells, such as the heaviest bell weighed a gigantic one tonne!

After that we went up 48 stairs to the bell room. We saw how big they all were (they were HUGE!). Then we went up another 71 stairs to the top of the tower, there were 119 steps altogether. On the platform on the top of the tower, it was quite windy, when actually it was a really hot day and quite calm on the ground.



We could see a lot of things far away, as the visibility was excellent. After that we went down the steps plus we went up on the ladders, so 258 steps in total!). After that we had a tour of the church and then went back to school. It was great.

By Imogen Barber

Westonbirt Arboretum



I liked the car park at Westonbirt Arboretum. There were a few cars. We went into the forest. There were big and tall trees. We saw flowers and shrubs and grass. We saw foxholes, mouse-holes and rabbit holes. We went to benches and sat. We had a map and had to find certain points on it. We used a compass. We spelled the word 'Weston' by finding the letters from the locations on the map. After lunch we played and explored. We also looked at leaves on benches and matched them with the real leaves to tell what they were.

By Iyannah Malcolm.

Battle of Britannia

On the 10th July we put on a mini play called the Battle of Britannia. The plot, in short, was that the Romans conquered Britain and settled there. At the beginning Emperor Claudius was chatting to his senator, Ludicrus about who they should invade. Claudius decides they should attempt Britannia again. There was a battle scene between the Celts and the Romans, then the Celts asked for a truce.

The funniest part of the play was the letter sent back to Rome from a soldier talking about the Celtic women being big, loud and that they dye their hair with something that smells horrible! I was two characters, Ludicrus (a Senator) and Septimus (a Roman soldier). We all really enjoyed doing it, even though we didn't have much time to practice.

By Rufus Gulliford

New Zealand Day

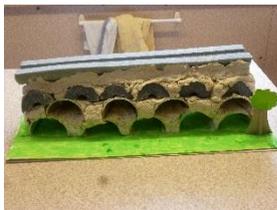


It was on Friday 26th of June. We played a Hairy Maclary Game. I liked it because it was a maths game. The day was exciting. We made pikelets and they were yummy. It was fun making the flag out of paper.

By Tilly Gulliford

Aqueducts

At the start of term we started a new DT project. We planned to do aqueducts (not viaducts) and then Roman weapons. So we began to research and plan, measure and calculate.



Everyone had a different design. Immie planned to make hers out of a sand dough, with arches of different heights and a sloping waterway. Toby wanted to make his out of tiny bricks and cement (called Teifoc) and Dan decided to make his out of clay, planning to make three layers of arches. Everyone apart from Rebekah came up with some design problems but managed to find ways around the problems.

Toby's design would often crash and break so in the end he decided to make it into an ancient ruined aqueduct and it looked very picturesque. Immie's one kept on cracking. "The glue gun is my best friend" stated Immie, aged 10 as she used it and lollipop sticks to scaffold the structure. By the 4th week it worked perfectly.

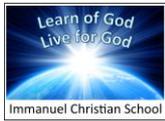


Dan's one cracked in half many times so he finally relented and had only one layer of arches. In compensation, he added an interesting 3 pipes making his the longest and second highest.

We ran over schedule on our project by three weeks and on the fourth week we tested the aqueducts to see if they could carry water from one end to the other. It was really exciting testing them and we were pleased they all worked (apart from Toby's which was the ruin). Dan's broke soon after the test.

As we had run over there wasn't time to make Roman weapons (much to Mrs. Gulliford' relief!). Instead we did preparations for the end of term thank you celebration. We made cards, bunting and delicious foods and we will give them out to all the people who help us in school. I think it's true to say everyone enjoyed the DT project, even though it was frustrating at times.

By Dan Heaps



Sports

At the start of term after school club each Monday was athletics, then it stopped about half way through term (and we did den building).

Also, we had swimming lessons each Tuesday at our local pool in Yate. In doing so many of us managed to succeed in getting badges. In total we received 7 badges between us, including two personal survival badges (well done Immie and Miyah!).



Towards the end of term we joined a sports day with another Christian school called Emmaus. That day we managed to scoop 5 gold medals, 4 silver and 5 bronze – not bad between 7 pupils!! (Sadly Dan was off school, otherwise there might have been even more).

By Toby Braun

2015/16 Term Dates

- Mon 7th Sept – Wed 21st Oct
- Mon 2nd Nov – Fri 11th Dec
- Mon 4th Jan – Fri 5th Feb
- Mon 15th Feb – Fri 18th Mar
- Mon 11th Apr – Fri 27th May
- Mon 6th June – Tues 19th July

The flexi-schooling day will continue to be a Friday. The first day for flexi-schoolers will be Friday 11th September.

Staff Changes

We are very sorry to be saying goodbye to Cherie Braun. We will miss her greatly and pray for every blessing as she and the family return to New Zealand.

We are also very sorry that Karuna Monteiro is going to be stepping back from her teaching role but thankful that she will still be around, helping as a volunteer.

We are humbled by God's provision to fill the staffing vacancies. These are hard shoes to fill! Karen Hurley will be teaching on Wednesdays and Thursdays. We also have Tabitha Burgess volunteering for the whole of the Christmas term.

Easy Fundraising

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easyfundraising
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For example Amazon will donate up to 2.5% of the purchase price to the school. You pay no extra.

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