



Pupils' Eye



FIERCE FLOODS

After days and days of torrential rain, the little stream that runs through Albury, finally burst its banks, flooding the village and surrounding area.



The terrible floods overwhelmed a car

Albury School had to be closed because the floods were so bad and it would have been extremely dangerous for pupils and staff to attempt the journey. Some people were stuck indoors and had to protect their homes by putting sand bags in front of their entrances.

Many local people were badly affected by the extreme weather conditions. Kiera commented, "They were quite annoying because we needed to get some daily products. All of the exits out of Albury were blocked by deep water." Louis agreed, "The floods were horrible as they stopped my family from doing activities".

Mrs Badman added, "In the rural villages the roads were very bad. Livestock had to be moved quickly to higher ground. Everybody in the village worked together. Our village was lucky; other local villages like Furneux Pelham became an island." Mr Howard said, "I couldn't believe it on Friday when Mrs. Waight rang me to say how bad the floods were and was grateful that no-one got injured."

Others were not left quite as traumatised by the event as Mrs Maskell, who lives in Bishop's Stortford commented, "I had a lovely day at home with the children."

Those who had to be, were evacuated from their houses and taken to a local school. Everybody was shocked about how bad it was. Surprisingly, people still tried to reach their destination and some got completely stuck in the flooded roads. Sadly people have been left with damage to their properties.

It was not Albury alone which suffered as it was also reported that the A120 was closed because the floods were THAT BAD! Fire crews and residents worked tirelessly and by tea time that day the road was back open, with the flood waters having subsided.

The floods have now completely disappeared; the only evidence remaining being debris on the pavements and roads.

By Lauren and Elinor



FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE

Children from Albury Primary School were once again fortunate enough to attend The Festival of Literature hosted by Bishop's Stortford College.

Each class went along to hear a fantastic talk by a famous author that was appropriate for their age group. Class One listened to the very funny Jeremy Strong. They also had the wonderful opportunity to meet each author and even buy a book that was signed personally. There were many different schools came to visit.

Class Three attended a talk given by Jonathan Stroud who had recently published a new book called The Screaming Staircase. Other best selling titles include: Bartmaeus, Burned Fire and Heroes of the Valley.



Louis gets to meet the famous author

Before the talk began,

each child produced their Home/School contact books, where the award winning author was kind enough to write his signature.

Jonathan then began by showing the audience the rather scary trailer for his new novel. Then there was a discussion where the children had to suggest good settings for ghost stories, whilst he drew brilliant cartoons of each. He then continued by telling us all about the different ghosts that he had in his most recent story. Lauren was chosen to dress up as a ghost hunter, before Jonathan read a section from his book.

Leo commented, "It was

exciting and relaxing while he read The Screaming Staircase to me".

Mrs Maskell bought a copy of The Screaming Staircase and got it signed for the children in Albury Primary School. She has also borrowed many more of his titles from Bishop's Stortford Library which she keeps on a shelf of books for children to borrow and read.

(For more information, go to:

www.JonathanStroud.com)

Everyone really enjoyed The Festival of Literature and are already looking forward to next year's event.

By Jake and Elinor

NEWCOMB CUP AMAZEMENT!

At the end of the Christmas term, the children finished with a church assembly held by Reverend Giles. The time had come to hand out the precious Newcomb Cup.

Daisy Bird was awarded this legendary prize, for being a fantastic ambassador for the school. Mr Howard awarded this grand prize and Daisy could not believe she had won the New Comb Cup.

It took everyone by surprise that

Daisy won the Newcomb Cup which is awarded every term to a pupil who has worked extremely hard. Daisy's mum was sitting at the back and was caught totally unaware of Daisy's achievement. Daisy commented "I couldn't believe I had won the Newcomb Cup!"



A stunned Daisy Bird holding the Newcomb cup.

Once Mr Howard awarded the prize to Daisy, the crowd applauded. Mrs Maskell, who nominated Daisy for this prestigious award said, "I am very proud of Daisy for all her hard work. She is a lovely girl, who really gives a lot to Albury Primary School. She thoroughly deserves to be recognised for all of her efforts!"

The school is very pleased that Daisy won the award. Well done Daisy!!



By Daisy and George



NEW ARRIVALS

At school you may have noticed some new faces; these belong to Miss Hodge and Rocco Brace.

We would like to welcome Miss Hodge who joined the school after the Christmas holidays. Miss Hodge, who works with Miss Brace-Day in early years, came to Albury from Little Hadham and is with Albury until the summer.

So far the EYFS classroom has been turned into a jungle with the children all going on a school trip to visit a local zoo. All the younger children have really enjoyed this jungle and forest topic.

All the school would also like to welcome Rocco Brace (nursery) to the EYFS class as well. He is very happy

at Albury Primary and will stay along time. The school hopes that Rocco will stay with us throughout the school year.



On a sad note...
Lois McGovern has unfortunately now moved to a new school in Bishop's Stortford which is nearer to her home. She will be greatly missed, but we wish her all the best.

By Leo and Oscar

ENTHUSIASTIC EXERCISE

Mr Nichols recently prepared Years 4-6 for a Sports Hall Athletics tournament, held at Birchwood.

As the minutes went by the pupils got more and more excited then it was time; the bus arrived and all the cheery children soon climbed aboard.

The destination was finally in sight. The young athletes, with a competitive tone, entered the sporting hall. The multicoloured lines patterned the polished floor, which made the room feel welcoming. The small athletes were invited to warm up.

The competition was tough. The Albury pupils had been only practising at such short notice. Cole commented, "The activities were exciting and it was a good experience." Once the individual races began, Albury managed to win two of them against three other schools.

Everyone in Albury really enjoyed the running races and good experience for next time we take part in a competition.

By Lauren and Cole

WONDERFUL WRITERS

On Thursday the 13th of February two of the year six students, Louis and Kiera attended a Wonderful Writers meeting.

Kindly, Mrs Welsh transported the writers from Albury to St. Andrews School in Much Hadham. As the excited Louis and Kiera travelled in the direction of their destination, they saw some of their writing friends coming the same way.

Helpfully, the caring receptionist led the way

into the building to wait for Miss Broomfield and her acquaintances. The Albury team were put with St Andrews pupils; Kiera with Isabel while Louis was paired with Nathaniel. The pairs were asked to write about the Winter Olympics.



Albury's Wonderful Writers showing off their literacy masterpieces!

Firstly, to plan the descriptive writing the pairs filled out a page with the use of a spider map. Afterwards, the spider map came in useful when it came to starting their writing. Isabel and Kiera wrote about a lady Snowboarder while Louis and Nathaniel wrote about a Biathlon athlete.

Since Louis and Kiera are the only Albury pupils attending these meetings and they are honoured to go to these writing activities.

By Louis and Kiera.



NIGHT OWLS

Night Owls has recently started in the School Hall for children whose parents are at work.

Out of school childcare is offered by this Ofsted registered provider based in Bishop's Stortford. Children aged from 3 to 11 are accepted and offers flexible hours to accommodate parents' busy schedules.

The children who are in Reception come and get collected from the main school building and a supervisor would take the child over to the hall. Kiera commented, "This club is very enjoyable and I would recommend the safety and protection around the children five star."

First of all the children gather into the School Hall and take a register. They are then joined by Little Hadham to have biscuits and a drink. The supervisors

normally organise a fun activity to keep the children occupied.



A sleepy Night Owl ready to go home after having so much fun at the club

After which, they are allowed to play with toys and games including:

Dress up dolls, X-box/wii, a book corner, art and crafts table, even a play tent.

Later, Night Owls staff, Sarah and Hayley, also prepare a light dinner for the children in case they arrive home late after the club.

Night Owls is a very fun and exciting opportunity which is open to anyone who wishes to join.

By Daisy and Kiera

BRAND NEW AND SHINING BRIGHT

On Saturday the 25th of January, kind parents volunteered to clean out and change the school. The school hired a big skip to home all the junk. You could not believe how much there was, it was incredible. Clearing out has really helped develop the school by having less clutter.



Also the library has had a change around. Mr Howard managed to get his hands on two comfortable sofas. The children really enjoy sitting on them and reading a good book. Cole stated, "I think the new library is really nice to sit down and read a book with your friends."

Mr Nichols' class has also been redone; it now has a special corner filled with lots of good books. The pupils in class 2 were overwhelmed with their new and improved classroom.

This would not have been accomplished if those wonderful volunteers had not helped.

By Louis and George

EXCELLENT AND TERRIFIC

This Autumn term a new system has been introduced and it goes by the name of TERRIFIC and the Excellence in Writing has also been awarded to some lucky pupils.

The lucky winners of Excellence in writing this month were:

Miles Badman for his description of a African waterhole. For Class one it was Lola Whines she said "I was very happy to win and I am so glad to have one it." In Class two

the winner was Rebecca Yeowl for her great description in a story opening. Finally for Class three, it was Oscar Kenyon-Muir for his description on a busy street in London.



The first TERRIFIC award was given out and the winners were: Kiera Palmer who stated, "I felt amazing that I got the award because the other people in my class were working as hard." George Kelly received the award for his great effort throughout his learning. Last but certainly not least is Millie for being caring towards her fellow pupils.

Well done everybody! Keep up the good work.

By Louis and George