



# Moorlands Mail

Written by Years 6, 7 and 8

Issue 2: February 2009

## He's behind you!

by Alice Hobson

The famous words 'He's behind you!' have been shouted by audiences for years – but now they've been shouted with a twist!

Since when did Cinderella marry Buttons? Has the royal cook *really* had a crush on Nigella Lawson before? And when did a 'Pwince' who likes 'Wounders' appear?

When the Moorlands school staff put on their production of *Cinderella!*

With a dazzling host of narrative fairies and singers, many very well played characters, a great backstage team and some excellent scenery, the pantomime—held on January 29 and 30—was an amazing success! Buttons was played by headmaster Mr Davies, Cinderella was played by Miss Delglyn, with Mr Fawcett and Mr Chandler taking the roles of the ugly sisters.

Pupil Charlotte Chambers, 12, said: "It was funny and I loved it all. I was sitting next to Alice and we nearly cried we were laughing so much!"

"Mr Chandler and Mr Fawcett looked great in their make-up."

Music teacher Ms Strachan and Mrs Morgan wrote the play, with a little help from Mr Davies.

Ms Strachan commented: "We only had from about January 6 to practise, with only three rehearsals. Luckily, we've got a very dedicated team of staff."

Miss Delglyn, who played Cinderella, said that she spent the whole of one Sunday practising her lines due to the lack of time.

"I was so nervous," she exclaimed. "But everything was all right on the night."

The pantomime was a great success and all the pupils who attended obviously enjoyed it. Oh yes they did!

## Snowbiz

by Dominic Bailey

Moorlands pupils and teachers were overjoyed when an impromptu four-day weekend proved there's 'snow' place like home!

School was closed on Monday February 2 and Tuesday February 3 due to the thickest snow we have had in three years.

After deliberating from 5am, Mr Davies and Mr Fawcett concluded it was just too dangerous for pupils and teachers to journey in.

Pupils woke up to a winter wonderland and, after scanning the up-to-date Moorlands website, they found out they had a whole day off school.. and then another!

After the snowfall, Moorlands pupils made the most of the snow by making sculptures on the Green.

"It was great to see all the pupils playing and building their sculptures," said teacher Mrs Sanderson. The Foxhill area was badly hit, as it is one of the highest points in Leeds and very close to the water tower. That's 227m above sea level!



Cinderfellas: Mr Chandler and Mr Fawcett



Yr 7/8: Snow business like it

# You're nicked!

by Harriet Bicknell

Hello.. 'ello.. On the morning of January 28, Foundation unit, Year 1 and Year 2 had a visit from a surprise hero.

Police officer Mr Spencer came into school to teach Year 1 about his job - as part of Lower School's topic about helping people.

As the day went on, the children learnt that PC Spencer was a traffic observer and often visited the scenes of crime.

The young pupils then went to see the police car in groups.

Everyone had a turn to press the siren button if they wanted to.

However, one pupil - George Chambers - had another interest; he was fascinated by the spy camera at the front of the car. This camera records any traffic or police chases.

"A good time was had by all," said Year 1's Miss Ibbotson.

"It's not often we have a real police car parked outside school. The children were so excited!"



## Yr2 step back in time

by Ayrton Hamilton-Smith

Year 2 visited the Thackray Museum to learn about the advances in medicine and how it has changed our lives. Pupils headed to the museum at St James Hospital on January 22.

The girls were dressed as nurses, while the boys carried equipment such as blanket and bandages.

In History, Year 2 have been learning about people from the past, for example Louis Braille, Alexander the Great and Florence Nightingale.

As part of the trip, they also visited the Scutari Hospital, named after the hospital where Florence Nightingale

worked during the Crimean War in the 19th Century.

Pupil Shani Epstein-Graves said: "It was really good. Mr Kelly made us laugh because he had to pretend to be a patient."

Ed Morrison exclaimed: "It was a great trip. I learnt a lot about Florence Nightingale."



Bedside manner: Yr 2

# Splash!

by Harriet Bicknell

Year 5 have spent the day at a water treatment centre to learn more about water and how it is cleaned - as part of their Geography project. Pupils visited the Headingley Waterworks on January 15, to chart the journey water takes from the sky to our taps.

Wearing helmets, headphones and luminous jackets, pupils ventured outside to peer inside the enormous tanks and filters used to clean water. Later, they did some activities on computers and found the water pipes that bring the water to their houses.

Nick Bell, aged 10, exclaimed: "It was surprisingly lots of fun."

Mia Goldsborough (pictured), 10, said: "It was interesting because we got to see lots of different tanks. There was one tank that looked like there was chocolate mousse inside not water!"

Year 5 are continuing their study on water but now, having been to the Waterworks, it is twice the fun.



## R.I.P Smiffy

Foundation suffered an unfortunate loss after their gerbil Smiffy sadly passed away, writes Gregory Bertrand.

Luckily, brother Splodge is well.

Foundation pupils mourned the loss of Smiffy just before Christmas.

Miss Sillars exclaimed: "It was not the Christmas present we were hoping for."

Splodge is now settling in his cage, without his brother. In addition to their gerbil, Foundation have goldfish to care for.

# West End star

By Alice Hobson

Once upon a time there lived a brilliant actress – called Imogen Bates!

It is not often that people get the chance to perform in the London’s West End but that’s exactly what Imogen, 10, got the chance to do!

On November 24 - with just 11 other people from the Stage Coach she attends - Imogen went to London, after being chosen out of 42

people to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Stage Coach with children from 12 to 16 years.

“There were over 700 people watching!” she exclaimed.

She has also found out that, fame does come with a price.

“I had to be at Stage Coach from 10am to 2pm every Saturday!” she added. “And all for only a few hours of glory!”

The actual performance was a huge success.

Imogen, pictured nearest left with friend Olivia Bell, danced her feet off and sang her heart out. She hopes to be a West End star and put her brothers to shame when she is older!



# Glorious food

By Gregory Bertrand

After another successful campaign, the school council, with help from Mr Davies, have been persuading the catering staff to make sure pupils have more choice of food.

Goodbye stodgy grub and tasteless meats, hello tantalising Thai and worldly wonders.

Pupils have begun to lick their plates clean and have even gone back for seconds.

Dominic Scruton, 10, claimed: “The food has improved by a lot. I hope that they continue and make more continental food.”

School council is continuing to work alongside the kitchen staff to improve lunches and will be asking for your feedback soon.



# Treasure Hunt



Calling the next Sherlock Holmes... Try your hand at our cryptic treasure hunt—for pupils and parents! The clues begin at the main entrance to school.

1. The entrance to Moorlands may be fit for a lord, but how many black squares are on the giant chess board?

2. Taking a left towards a room for the bands, who’s the teacher with notebook in hand?

3. The falcon is a bird of ‘play’, but how many signatures are on its chest today?

4. Into the main hall where pupils do munch, how many rodents having their lunch?

5. So many people, so many names, but who was John Geoffrey and what was his fame?

6. R.C.M Strachan and Emily Copeling make an unlikely pair, but what do they have in common above the stairs?

7. On the landing’s a tricky clue I must confess, but what quality did Eileen Macpherson possess?

8. They say life isn’t fair But neither is it square?

9. Outside the Deputy Head’s office there’s not much light, but what may cause to children to fight?

NAME: .....  
FORM: .....

**Please cut out and return to Miss Palmer by the end of February - for your chance to win. Good luck!**

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## Moorlands Mail

**Pupils from Years 6 - 8 have worked hard to bring you the SECOND edition of Moorlands Mail.**

The news team are: James Brewster, Daniel Williams, Gregory Bertrand, Dominic Bailey, Alice Hobson, Harriet Bicknell, Bertie Worthington, Neil Dattani, Eve Adcock, Cordelia Richardson, James Kennedy, Justin Wong, Ayrtton Hamilton-Smith.. with help from teacher Miss Palmer. Thank you for reading.

**Do you have a news story?**

**Please contact one of our news team.**

# Karate credentials

by James Kennedy

Moorlands have been high kicking in their recent Karate gradings.

Pupils have been attending Karate classes after school in preparation for the tough exams.

Among those from Moorlands were: Frank Bailey, who passed his red belt, Gaby Morrison (mother of Will and Ed), who passed her yellow belt, and Sue Green (mother of Natasha and Harry), who passed her orange belt. Will Morrison and Harry Green both passed orange belts, while Daniel Marker took his green.

The exams for the seniors were at 12:30 till 2:30 and current Moorlanders Rebecca Cook, Daniel Cook, Charlotte Chambers and George Chambers all passed their purple belt with flying colours. Well done!

Year 8 pupil Daniel Cook said: "Many people were nervous but we mostly enjoyed it."

Karate Club is held on a Friday from 4:30 and for the more experienced (from yellow belt upwards) 5:30.

The karate teachers are Sensei Thornton, Sensei Walker and Sensei Dresner.



**A storming success: the Karate Club last year**

# Netball success

by Eve Adcock

Moorlands girls have been giving it their best shot in several netball tournaments across Yorkshire.

The U11 netball team - which consists of Cordelia Richardson, Claudia Stanton, Eve Adcock, Rebecca Cook, Olivia Liburd, Olivia Bell and Imogen Bates - took part in a tournament at Queen Margaret's School in Escrick, York on January 23, where they reached the semi-final in the Cup Competition.

Coached by P.E teacher Mrs Thomson, the team also visited Gateways school for a tournament in October.

Moorlands played against Richmond House, Alcuin,

Frobelian, Gateways, and Leeds and Bradford Grammar Schools.

Alcuin and Frobelian, in particular, were very strong teams. They were exceptionally good at dodging and moving into spaces so they unfortunately lost to them.

Netball captain Cordelia commented: "We all play our hardest in every match whether we win or lose. We will keep on practising."

"Netball matches are really fun and Mrs Thomson is a brilliant coach!" Olivia Liburd enthused. "We try to practise once a week."

The next tournament is at Sedbergh on February 25.

# In the deep end

by Cordelia Richardson

A Moorlands pupil has taken the plunge in an annual national diving competition.

On December 6, Eve Adcock took part in the Thistle Trophy Contest, held in Edinburgh, Scotland.

The whole competition lasted three days, in which Eve competed on the third day, along with 27 other divers. She came a fantastic 10<sup>th</sup> in her competition.

Eve dedicates a lot to her diving and practises four times a week at South Leeds Stadium.

Eve was chosen by a diving team from South Leeds, who came to Moorlands three years ago to search for potential talent.

There were three students picked for the diving trials, Eve being one of them.

Speaking about the competition, Eve commented: "It was really tiring and nerve racking but it was worth it in the end - especially with all the hours of practice I've been putting in."

We hope Eve will be competing in more competitions soon!



**Taking the plunge: Eve competing**