

CHEQS Magazine August 2021

Southrop C of E Primary

Together We Can Fly

By the time you read this we will have come to the end of another rather extraordinary school year. We were delighted that we could uphold almost all of our Southrop traditions, each in a slightly modified form.

Instead of our customary residential, all of the Swans experienced a dawn-to-dusk day at Hill End Activity Centre. We were lucky enough to spend time in Wytham Woods, an ancient semi-natural woodland, designated Site of Special Scientific Interest and one of the most researched pieces of woodland in the world, exceptionally rich in flora and fauna. On our survival course we learnt to build dens, light fires with a steel, trap bears (!), which plants were toxic and which edible and purify water with cotton wool, grass and charcoal. Later we undertook team building challenges, for example to guide a blind-folded partner through tyres, under scramble nets and around the trees. As everyone else left the centre for the day we enjoyed some free-time and then finally barbecued our evening meal round the campfire, toasted marshmallows and enjoyed a cup of hot chocolate - the perfect end to a perfect day!

The Swans performed their annual play in the playground rather than the village hall. In The Keymaster, a rather dull looking supply teacher, took us on a tour to show how gruesome and fascinating history really is!

Sports day was split to take place in separate sessions for our two bubbles, as was the biennial sculpture show in our wildlife garden, which was inspired by trips to the fabulous Cotswold Sculpture Park in the Water Park.

In the last week we were able to return to Church for our leavers' service, and the traditional lunch worked very well in the playground. We are very sad to be losing our amazing Year 6s, but we know that each is ready for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead at their next school. Staff and governors gathered at The Victoria Inn in Eastleach to say farewell and huge thank you to Jean Holder. Jean's children attended the school and she has supported the school in so many different ways since then. For many years she was Chair of Governors, but she also used her experience as a Maths teacher volunteering to help with 1:1 maths tuition.

Term ended with our final worship of the year and Miss Davies' traditional retelling of Michael Rosen's hilarious poem, The Register, adapted to include each of our Swans. What could be better?!

Please take a look at our website <http://www.southrop.gloucs.sch.uk/> and Facebook page to find out more information and see slideshows of our recent activities.