

CHEQS Magazine July 2021

Southrop C of E Primary

Together We Can Fly

The whole school is very happy to be able to get out and about again, taking part in trips and activities. We have been using our minibus regularly to take younger children to the field for sports and to Forest School. It is also been used twice a week for swimming lessons at the newly refurbished Cricklade pool.

Sudeley Castle was the destination for the Cygnets first trip out, consolidating their work last term on castles. They all enjoyed seeing a castle up close, but inevitably the wonderful castle themed play area was also a big draw! They were lucky enough to see the imposing life-sized elephant sculptures which were just about to move on from the site.

There was huge excitement in anticipation of the Swans' first trip as to Oxford to the Pitt Rivers and Natural History Museums. We took part in a workshop handling and examining Mayan artefacts, explored the eclectic display cabinets to identify some additional artefacts and used these as inspiration for designs for Mayan headdresses. In the Natural History Museum the bugs and dinosaurs were a great draw but the beautiful artwork by Angela Palmer *2020: the Sphere that Changed the World*, a 3D model of the virus with an eerie and ethereal quality, had a great impact too. I think many of our pupils are keen to go back to explore the displays in both museums further. However, a definite highlight of the trip was lunchtime picnicking on the lawns, where we attracted the attention of a pair of mallard ducks, named by the children as Sneaker and Beaker, who were very keen to share our lunch. They were truly Southrop School ducks, showing resilience and determination and causing great hilarity, they managed to outpace Mr Jones and get a crust or two!

We definitely have the travel bug now and are looking forward to further trips to Hillend and Pittville Park this term.