

Polam Ponderings December 2008

New Arrivals

Pengma, from Nepal, is now our youngest resident in South View; other new arrivals are Katie in Yr 5, Drishti in L4 and Lucy in U4. Hope and Caitlin, also from the Junior School, stay one night a week. The new residents in Grange are Kathy, from Choristers, Claire and Vivian, from Hong Kong, Sophie, joining us to finish her A Levels, and, of course Brittany moving down from South View. New arrivals to New House are Stacey, Florence, Kelly and Ingrid along with last year's L6 from Grange and also Anna, who is also joining us for the final year of Sixth Form.

Activities

With the arrival of the shiny new minibus we have been able to venture further afield this term. The first trips were to Teesside Park for Bowling and Lightwater Valley theme park; both of these required 2 trips to accommodate everyone who wanted to go, so we now are looking for another minibus!!! Later in the term there were 2 trips to ice-skating but there will be another next term as we still couldn't fit in everybody! Visits to York and Durham have provided an opportunity for culture as well as shopping, though trips to the Metro Centre and Leeds were mainly aimed at shopping for Christmas. South Shields provided an interesting mix of culture in the museums and paddling in the sea, though it was a bit blustery! The trip to see Billingham Bombers Ice hockey match was a much less gentele cultural experience, but still enjoyed by all.

Closer to home, we held a barbecue at the start of the term and then had fireworks for the Chinese Moon Festival; we also set off some flying lanterns which hopefully extinguished safely on descent! Swimming at Northallerton provided a bit of exercise and visits to the school gym on an evening also allow for burning energy playing basketball, badminton or just plain running around and cartwheels!

Kayleigh, Carrie, Ellie, Brittany and Savanna continue to represent the school in their chosen sports. Ingrid, Hoi-Ting, Kathy, Chloe and Sara also represent the school with their musical talents.

The term was drawing to a close when we held our Candle-light Service. All of the girls were wonderful but I must particularly mention the readers: Kathy, Claire, Lucy, Kelly, Karen, Kayleigh, Joyce, and Ingrid; and the performers: Ivy, Florence, Stacey, Hoi-Ting, Kaitlin, Courtney and the Upper Sixth Form performing a piece written by Eunice.

Well done and 'Thank you' to all of the Boarders, especially Head Boarder, Karen, your hard work in preparing certainly showed.

My thanks, also, to all of the Staff for their resilience, energy and care of all the Boarders.

Next Term

I must remind parents that we do need written permission from you for your daughter to stay away from the Boarding House overnight.

Contact Details

To contact Staff in Grange and New House (01325) 373812
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I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas Holiday and Best Wishes for the New Year.

Jill Garvey
Head of Boarding