

IN OUR SCHOOL...

Where everyone is special

Year 6 Leavers 2023 Special Edition

**It's not goodbye, it's
just 'see you soon...'**



Today, we say a fond farewell to our fabulous year 6 children who have given everything to our school for the past seven years.

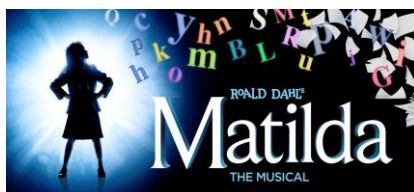
They began in reception as young, naïve, immature, young boys and girls; and they leave our school as mature, respectful, resilient young adults. We could not be prouder of them. On Monday they celebrated a lovely mass in church to celebrate their journey in faith during their time at St Austin's and there have been many other activities over the past few weeks and months that have helped to make the end to year 6 as enjoyable and memorable as possible.

In this special year 6 leavers edition of our school newspaper we will be sharing memories, photos and highlights of all of these fantastic events.

Colomendy (pages 2-4)



Year 6 production of Matilda (page 5)



Inflatable fun (page 6)



Memories to last a lifetime

In early April, year 6 spent three fantastic nights at Colomendy. During their visit, year 6 took part in a number team building and adventurous activities. Year 6 supported each other incredibly well and were always showing encouragement and kindness to each other, they were an absolute credit to the school and to themselves throughout their stay at Colomendy.

In the words of the children themselves, here is a thorough run-down of all of the activities which made this residential such a memorable three nights.

Buggy Building – by ALEXIA (6DH)

Buggy building was the last activity I did before we went home, it wasn't my favourites, but it is one I will remember. We were split into two teams, girls (who were Alexia, Maisy, Emily, Evie, Elsie, Lola and Eva) and boys (who were Elliot, Jayden, Bobby, Daniel, Jack and Tarun.)

Both teams had to construct a buggy with planks, barrels and rope. Once we had finished, what we had to do was, two people were brakes, two people pulled it and the rest of us sat on it. Ours did fall down a couple times though, but that's alright, because we rebuilt it!

Then, we had to do a challenge: witch team could pick up the most cones



while driving, sadly (for us,) the boys won. Lastly, we took them apart and played on the field before going home.

Caving and football – by JACK (6REC)

In Colomendy I picked Caving because it was so fun and funny and exciting I got over my fear of claustrophobia we went through the instructions with Ozzy. I went in with Jayden and Daniel K and they were helping everyone and it was very good. There were loads of small gaps and I didn't give up, so I carried on and help others too and it was very fun in the caves.

In Colomendy, we also played Football with all the teachers and classes 6RC lost 6-5. I had 1 shot on target and scored it! On My team we had Mr Huddleston and Mr Maddison and Mr Edwards. The other team had Mr Hints and Mr Ayre.

Caving – by OLIVIA (6DH)

In caving we went through courses around the cave, some included slides and some included climbing up a hole and down a hole but in every course there was always holes in the walls that were small or tiny and in every course you needed teamwork. On the walls there was calcite growing but you were not allowed to touch it as it would stop growing completely and start turning brown. Overall it was extremely fun and was one of my favourites activities.

Problem Solving – By LUCA (6REC)

Problem solving was really fun and helpful it was really funny because everyone kept falling off the tires we had to walk across {especially me} I was at the very end but there was no tyre there so I had to make a really big jump. I tried it then I got onto the platform but I fell so I had to restart. Paul and Leyton {who had finished the obstacle} came back to help us. Then eventually we all made it to the platform.

Zip-line – by ISLA (6DH)

The giant zip line was very high. The zip line was really fun, it was a bit worrying when you get on to the last step and then jump off. One, because you're dangling in mid-air and you are really high up as well. I was really nervous when I walked and I jumped off I went so red I was screaming, then it all stopped and I had finished the zip line. I felt so chill and I did it again. Just a few last mentions: thank you to the instructor Ozzy for making sure it was ok and safe and all so all the workers to make sure I was ok after the zip line.



Leap of Faith – By NEAVE (6DH)

When I went to Colomendy my favourite activity was the Leap of Faith. The Leap of Faith is an activity in Colomendy where you have to climb up a ladder to get to a small wooden platform and jump off to hit a balloon shaped ball. When it was my turn to do it I was really nervous, I started climbing up the ladder thinking about coming down but I said to myself no going back now, when I was at the top.

My instructor Gav started to count down, with everyone else in the group, from 3. I had no idea to do it or not but then I jumped and hit the ball, I felt fearless at the time and moment. All my friends were cheering me on. I slowly got lowered down safely. I was so happy that I conquered my fear that day.



Shelter Building – by JACKSON (6DH)

Shelter building was really fun and it gets you creative you have to make a shelter out of big logs on the ground and when my teacher announced that my group would be doing shelter building that day I was super excited, I really couldn't wait. I think it was in the afternoon so I had to wait for quite a while finally it was our turn. The instructors name was Vicky. She showed us all the different ways we can make a shelter, then she told us





to get into groups of 5. I was in a group with Martha, Ada, Neave and Lucy. We decided to go for the first way where the log rests on another log, it looked quite easy so we got to work. We all did different tasks, one of mine was to collect leaves to make it cosy in the shelter, then I collected moss to protect the shelter from winds. Once we had finished, Vicky came over and looked at each shelter, and guess what? When she looked at ours, everyone said that it looked so good and there was nothing to improve it. We were all so happy, then we had to head back for dinner and that was my amazing experience with shelter building.

Zip-line – by IMOGEN (6REC)

Kingswood, Colomendy is an excursion that you do in year 6 at St Austin's. The activity that got my adrenalin up, my blood pumping and the screams out of me was the Kingswood, Colomendy zip-wire. This activity, in my opinion, was the most thrilling, exciting, extraordinary thing that I

have ever experienced! It was my second activity of that day, my group (group 3 whose teachers were Mr Ayre and Mrs Foster) had been looking forward to the experience all morning, we loudly discussed about how was going first and what we would do whilst zooming down.

As soon as we arrived I was starting to realise how high the zip-wire actually was! I was beginning to get nervous, thoughts flew through my head but I knew it was completely safe and I had nothing to worry about. To get to the wire we had to climb a steep slope it was a great struggle but we finally reached the top! We cheered as everyone went down the wire and I enjoyed it thoroughly as sooner than expected it was my turn. When you are standing on the platform next to the high trees it is extremely nerve racking but (once you've got the courage) whizzing down is amazing!

It feels like you are flying high in the sky and you can't help but scream! Luckily, once we were done, we had time for a again,

Ladyewell Shrine

On Wednesday 12th July, Father David organised for the year 6 children to visit the Ladyewell shrine, just outside Preston. It was a lovely day, allowing us to reflect on our faith. Alexia in 6DH said, *"It was a wonderful shrine to Our Lady, Mary. There were mosaics on the walls, we all lit a candle and said a prayer for someone special and then blessed ourselves with the holy water from the well. There was even a gift shop where you could buy rosary beads and crosses. It was a very holy and peaceful place."*



'The Course of True Love...' Young Shakespeare performance of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'

Back in May, year 6 were treated to a visit from the Young Shakespeare Company, who performed one of Shakespeare's most well-known comedies, The Tempest. It was a captivating performance and the children loved the storytelling and enactment of the actors and actresses. There were also opportunities for the children themselves to play an active role in the performance. Year 6 then spent the afternoon in class, exploring the play further and immersing themselves in the Shakespeare text. A big thank you to the Young Shakespeare Company for another fantastic show.



What a performance! Year 6 production of Matilda a huge success!



What a performance it was! Two nights and two performances in school to remember! Every single child in year 6 contributed to a wonderful performance of Matilda and we are extremely proud of them all.

Here are some exclusive insights from the children involved:

This year, Y6 put on a fantastic performance that I was lucky to be a part of; Matilda the Musical. I played the role of Mrs Wormwood. A character that is ignorant and doesn't care about her daughter in the slightest but is quite significant to the play. Mrs Wormwood is the mum of the main character Matilda, the sweetest most pure hearted little girl, unlike her mean and cruel hearted mum Zinnia (Mrs Wormwood.) We performed the play twice in front of parents and siblings. Both nights ran smoothly and there was even some tears, and not just from the parents! We all performed West End worthy and we wouldn't have been able to do it without the backstage. I was granted with a solo of my choice and I chose 9-5 by Dolly Parton. The performance was a mix of emotions for everyone and I feel truly proud of all my friends and peers for the incredible performance they put on. I feel like we really

worked together and blew people away with our staggering, awe-inspiring production. There has been nothing ever like it and there will be nothing ever like it in the future but I am excited to see the performance next year even though I am sure they won't be able to top ours. – by EMILY (6DH)

Being backstage was fun, I enjoyed organising stuff. I was proud of myself that I helped the teachers who were so busy already. I really didn't want to be on stage acting so I joined the backstage crew, doing jobs and moving props made me feel like I was participating without having to go up and actually perform. Overall it was a great experience and I would gladly do it all again. – By AVA (6DH)

In the production, Matilda, I was the role Miss Trunchbull. It was very exciting working on the production every afternoon and sometimes I would forget my lines but eventually everything worked out. When I first saw my costume I thought it was a bit weird but I got used to it. On the night of the show, I started forgetting all my lines and was very nervous but as soon as I stood on the stage I knew that everything would be fine. Everything was all planned out and there was nothing to worry about. – by EVA (6REC)

We asked ANNA and POPPY from year 5, who both performed as part of the choir in the show, to write what they thought about Matilda. They were both very impressed:

I really enjoyed Matilda because I feel like they included everyone even the people who didn't want to be on the stage. In addition Miss Clarke and Mr. Hints even let the year 5 choir be apart of it which was a brilliant opportunity for us because it is kind of like a little taster of what we'll be doing next year! It was an amazing experience because we got to gain confidence to sing in front of multiple people and I thought that was incredible because a couple of the year 6 children got to sing solos to some of the songs in the production, which was really inclusive. I enjoyed the performance because even though I wasn't on stage we were all still a huge part of it. I really like the movie Matilda so when I found out that the choir were singing in the play I was so excited because I knew all of the Matilda songs anyway. – by ANNA (5EV)

I really enjoyed the performance because even though I wasn't on stage I was still a part of it. I liked all of the songs and even though we were sitting on a bench we still got to watch the performance. I am very grateful that Miss Clarke and Mr. Hints for letting year 5 be a part of it. It was also great for us so we'll get a good idea of what we will do next year! It was a really good experience and I am excited to do ours next year! And we have boosted our confidence for next year to perform in front of multiple people. I thought it was amazing when the year 6s sang solos and all together it was a great performance! – by POPPY (5EV)

FUN IN THE SUN

(AND RAIN!)

Garston Park and Inflatable Assault Course

This term we had two fantastic treats for year 6: the first was a trip to Garston Park, this was a celebratory afternoon to say well done for all of the children's hard work during SAT's week. When the rain intervened on the last day of half term, we had to postpone or fun until the first week back, but on a sunny Friday in June, the weather (and the enjoyment) didn't disappoint. The second treat, which has become an annual event in year 6, was a fantastic morning on the inflatable assault course. The rain threatened to ruin things but it stayed away just enough to give us plenty of time to have fun. Both classes thoroughly enjoyed their morning jumping, climbing, weaving and running through the assault course. Some children raced against each other, whilst others just enjoyed sharing a fun morning with their friends. Here's what our year 6 children thought of the inflatable assault course:



Friday morning we were all just staring out the window waiting for our treat to arrive we were all so excited that we saw a van, a white van with a print on the side, it said Inflatable we all jumped out of our seats knowing what had come Miss Clarke took us down to check it out then Mr Hints arrived we were already over by it so we got the first turn when it was my turn I jumped onto it from the mat then I slipped when I just back up the person I was racing was almost on the first slide I got up and started sprinting after a couple of seconds I caught up and ended up winning the race. In my opinion the inflatable was great and I think the Year 5s next year will love it. – by DAN K (6REC)

On 14th July we got to go on the Inflatable, it was so fun! We got to go on it from morning to lunch. We took turns on it, we got to choose who we went against. While we were on it rained quite a bit so we didn't get all our time on it but we still went on it for a lot of time. – By JULES (6REC)



SATS, the one thing that no one wants to go through. It feels like you can never have fun again, until it's over, then Y6 gets better and better. One of the many treats such as, Leaver's disco, Y6 production and the best one yet is the inflatable assault course. Yes every year to celebrate getting through SATS the school hires a massive assault course and children take it in turns to have fun a race their friends. To make it really fun Miss Clarke and Mr. Hints decided to make a contest to see who the fastest was. They recorded the 8 fastest times to finish. Those 8 people would then go on to quarter-finals, semi-finals and the final. I was lucky enough to get in with a time of 19.5seconds. I though only made it to the quarter-finals as the track was wet from a bit of rain. The final was Jayden against Georgie. Georgie was looking like he was going to win, but he crucially slipped and fell and Jayden won. It was a great experience and something to look forward to for future Y6s.

By CHARLOTTE (6DH)



Year 6 Disco Pics

What a night we had at the year 6 disco. There was dancing, snacks and plenty of laughter and fun. Here's just a few of the pictures from a memorable night!



Goodbye and Good Luck Year 6

