



DafNews



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Apology

Well, I guess I need to start this issue with an apology ... To Andrew. In the last issue I referred to Hayley's progress with her guitar lessons; but after Andrew had read it he commented that he plays the guitar as well and didn't get a mention.

Grandpa says: "Sorry Andrew."

"Dayus Horribilis"

Back in May when Jonny was sick, and wasn't allowed to see his friend Nathan, he complained to his mum that this was "The worst day of my life". Oh dear. The future can only hold more gloom!

Birthday Bashes

Hayley celebrated her 10th birthday with a BBQ attended by family and friends. The birthday games? Football of course. What else!



Jonny also had family members around to celebrate his 11th birthday, and football no doubt, in the garden.

Castles & Canals

When Beth and Hayley came to stay during half term, Grandma & Grandpa took them to Farleigh Hungerford

Castle and Bradford-on-Avon. This was opportune as Beth had a castle project to complete and received the top mark for her work. She did so well that she received the top mark in history at the end of the school year. Well done Beth!



'Walk of Death'

During a walk to Caesar's Camp in June, with Monty, Nicola & Mike noticed a load of 'heads'. Suddenly the heads leapt up and, finding themselves being fired upon, the couple fled in panic. Monty, of course, went to investigate. Perhaps he wanted to join up!

Mediterranean Moments

Table top dancing, or sitting to be more exact, took place when the Popes & Broomfields took off to enjoy Cyprus for a week. Apart from the above they had lunch in a tomb and generally had a riotous time.



Lakes & Mountains

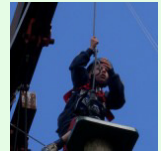
Geoff & Sheila's travels took them to Lake Garda in Veneto province of Italy where they enjoyed mountain



scenery, lakeside walks, rain (late afternoon mostly) and a visit to Venice with a ride on a gondola (in the rain).

Riviera Trip

In June Jonny had a school trip to England's Riviera - Torquay. In an interview with our correspondent Jonny said: "My activities included Trapeze, Archery, Fencing, Abseiling, Climbing Wall, Team Games, a Challenge Course, Rock Pooling and Coastal Formations. I enjoyed Archery the most because I got a Bull's-eye and a Red and a black. I also liked the Trapeze but it was quite scary when I had to crouch and then Jump."



SPECIAL OFFER

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Vive La France!

So shouted Beth and friends (yeah right!) when she had a school day trip to Boulogne, with an early morning start of about 4 am! She visited a

boulangerie and an aquarium, but didn't even bring back a 'Une glace au chocolat' for Grandma or Grandpa! (Not very euro-friendly is it?)

Techie Award

Was one guy pleased, like us all, when he (Jonny) received the 'Outstanding Achievement in ITC' award at the end of his last year at Crondall Junior School. Looks like he's following in Dad's and Grandpa's footsteps.



Sickness & Showers

So went the start of a week in August when Beth and Hayley came to stay with Grandma & Grandpa. However, in spite of Hayley and Grandma being sick, as well as the heavy rainfall, they did manage to visit Wookey Hole, The Fleet Air Arm Museum and Monkey World. The girls also had time to polish their Powerpoint skills by producing impressive presentations about themselves!



More Monkeying Around

Off to Monkey World again when Jonny and Andrew came to stay at the end of August. Other places visited included the Fleet Air Arm Museum; but once again the weather wasn't great so, as with Beth and Hayley, Powerpoint took over along with other activities. Monty also had a good time with brother Henry while Nicola was ALL ALONE (until Mike got home anyway).



Still, they were returned home in time to enjoy a family meal with Auntie Melanie on her 38th birthday.

Wandering in Weymouth

A pleasant day was spent on the Dorset coast when Janice & Graham came to stay for a couple of days. Lots of

browsing round shops, which Geoff enjoyed immensely as usual!!! Sheila and Janice later attended a fashion show hoping to buy new slinky outfits; unfortunately there weren't any.

New Schools & New Terms

Jonny and Sean started senior school this year. Court Moor for Jonny and Tomlin-scote for Sean. Best of luck boys!

It's also been a good start to the new school year for all the children.

Jonathan earned three merit points for his genealogy project and the highest mark in English. Nicola & Mike also received a letter from the school congratulating him and his colleagues acting as tour guides for the parents of new entrants.

Andrew was assessed to have the reading age of a 13 year old and was the highest in class for Maths. He is now being set 'individual challenges' in the subject.

Beth has been active playing netball and was also congratulated for her outstanding effort in English in a postcard received by Melanie & Lee.

Hayley was awarded two Certificates of Achievement and even featured in the local paper when a Hampshire Fire & Rescue team visited the school to demonstrate hazards in the home. The next major event for her will be her First Auditions guitar exam expected soon.

Top o' th' Hill?

I suppose you could say 40 fits the bill. Well Nicola, you're certainly there now! Apart from the family gathering on Sunday 14th and her surprise outing with friends to the Ritz, Grease and Planet Hollywood on 13th, Nicola spent a quiet day with Mike and Monty on her actual birthday.



Off to Osmington

Hayley enjoyed a week in Osmington Bay

in mid September on a PGL Adventure Course. PGL (according to Hayley) means Parent Get Lost. She shared a chalet with three friends and took part in activities including: Abseiling, Zip Wire, Quad Biking, Wall Climbing, Dragon Boating, Trapeze and Archery, in which she came first.

Couldn't be bothered!

Bit poor show what, when Grandpa didn't visit Andrew on his birthday but preferred to gad about in Gillingham. Still, he did have a video conference with Andrew at 8 am (and beat Grandma to it, ha!).

SPORTS NEWS

Football tournaments and games:

In Presentation Awards in May, Hayley (Beaulieu Rovers) was awarded 'Players Player' and Beth (Beaulieu Sharpays) 'Sportsman'. The school team were also the runners up in the Hampshire Schools Finals.

Andy was awarded 'Man of the Match' in September and Jonathan's team has been achieving a series of good wins.

How many times?

It was when Hayley was being taught about reproduction at school that she noted that one of her friends had three siblings. Logically, she said to Melanie & Lee that her friend's mum & dad must have 'done it' four times. "So you and Daddy must have done it twice." At which point Beth chirped in with "Mummy's done it more than twice because she's laughing." Dad, of course, had to add "I don't know who she's done it with because I've only done it twice."

Another Birthday

This year Melanie & Lee hosted Geoff's birthday when the family gathered round to eat drink and watch football of course. Thanks go to Nicola, who made a delicious cake, and Beth, for the toffee yoghurt. Hey!