

Alumni et Amicitia

Association

for former pupils and staff of Leehurst, Swan, La Retraite, La Retraite Swan, and Leehurst Swan Schools



Newsletter 12
Spring 2015

From the Headmaster

The school may be a hundred years old, but there is life and vitality in the pupils and staff at Leehurst Swan as we commence the second century.

In this newsletter you will receive details of our final Centenary celebration event: a lunch in school for all former pupils, staff and members of the Leehurst/ La Retraite/ Swan schools. You are most welcome to attend and I hope to see as many AAA members as possible for what will be a memorable event.

The start of the Spring term is usually dominated with thoughts about snow, mock GCSE examinations and the Prep reports which are sent out to parents at half term. This year, however, I was also looking forward to the completion of an in house redevelopment. Some of the internal walls that had been erected in haste in the summer of 1996 have been removed. They had formed the class rooms required to accommodate the arrival of the Swan school on site and their removal has revealed the large expanse of space used once as the La Retraite dining room.

The space has been refitted and now forms 'The Studio', used for drama, music, talks and indoor sports. It will also form the examination room for the GCSE exams, leaving the gym free during the six weeks in the summer term when the examinations take place.

The construction of the Studio has only been made possible by the provision of 12 extra class rooms in the Centenary building and so the Senior School has also benefited from the development of the Prep department. Unseen, but of equal value to visitors, is the opening of a new staff car park on the former reservoir site. This has freed up the main car parks on the Campbell Road site and has been much appreciated by visitors and parents alike. Perhaps you, too, would like to visit your former school and see how it has changed in recent years. You can be assured of a warm welcome.

With my best wishes

Roger Leake

Centenary Lunch: Saturday June 27th

You are all cordially invited to a lunch at school in the Walker Hall on Saturday June 27th. The meal will start at 1 pm, with Reception from 12.30. The cost will be £18, to include a two course meal, drinks and coffee. If you would like to come, please could you send a cheque made out to 'Leehurst Swan School' to Mrs Trudi Cotton. After lunch there will be an opportunity for you to tour the school and to see our latest facilities.



Preparing the Studio for 'action'

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Art and Photography

David Liversage, our Head of Art, organised an exhibition for local schools called 'Old from New'. It was displayed in Salisbury Library from February 28th for two weeks. Pupils showed both their Photography and Art; some of the photographs were taken by hundred year old cameras used on the Battlefields Trip. These pictures were a response to the trip, taken by Tsungai Chadhliwa.

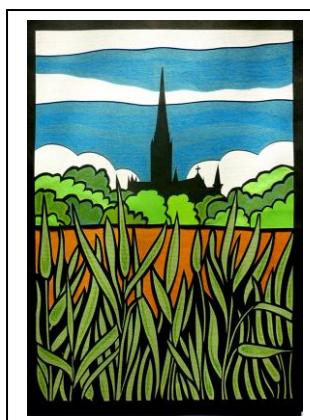


Tabitha Bunyan was also awarded the Salisbury Rotary Prize for Photography this year.

Slices of Life: February 14th – July 4th

However, as many of you will be well aware, our current pupils are just following a school tradition in producing art works of distinction. Vanessa Stone, one of our Alumni, is enjoying a solo exhibition at Salisbury Museum. Vanessa achieves her distinctive pieces through cutting and layering paper and her exhibition includes depictions of many local landmarks. You can find out more about her art on her web-site:

www.vanessastoneartist.com



'Through the reeds to the Spire' by Vanessa Stone

Dream On

Our Senior School put on a very successful production of 'Dream On', revisiting a musical which some Alumni will remember well. Mrs Clarke was the producer and the play ran for the last three days of the Spring Term.



Jacob Spicer as Puck and his fellow heavies, Luigi and Gino, Luc Swanwick and Frankie Holmes

Dates for your Diary

Another opportunity to visit us is the School Summer fair, now an annual event. This year it is being held **from 12 pm on Saturday 13th June** and there will be an Alumni stall present.

You are also very welcome, as always, to attend our Carol Service in the cathedral on **Thursday 17th December at 9.30 am**.

Babies and toddlers at 'The Nest'

As from September 2015, Leehurst Swan will be offering care for babies and toddlers. The Nest is our new facility to help working parents by providing high quality care for their very young children. Further details are on the school website.

Email addresses please!

We would be very grateful if you could send us an email address if you have one, so that we can email you the newsletter. Not only would this save postage and a lot of time, but also the chocolate needed to bribe current pupils 10 to help stuff the envelopes!

Also, do encourage any of your friends to send us their addresses. It is lovely to keep in touch, even if you do not manage to get into school. The address is given below.

**Trudi Cotton, Alumni et Amicitia Association,
Leehurst Swan School, 19 Campbell Road, Salisbury
SP1 3BQ 01722 333094
alumni@leehurstswan.org.uk**