



Clowning around as children learn new skills at school

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Children at Taverham Hall School swapped their timetables for tightropes when they learnt circus skills, explored the great outdoors and took part in crafts as part of pre-prep activity week.

On Monday, children in reception made two Elmer finger puppets while Year 1 made fish puppets.

The fish will form a very colourful part of the school's Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch display.

Year 2 made their own finger puppet characters.

Tuesday saw the children transform into science detectives for the day. In mixed year groups they used different materials such as Lego and Knex to make structures, build bridges with balsa and newspaper and experimented with the texture of "gloop" and created Playdoh sculptures.

Rory Richardson, from Year 1, said: "It was really exciting; we made the London Eye with Knex and put Lego people in it."

On Wednesday, the Magic Carpet Theatre Company came to school as the Circus Avago. The children learnt to walk a tightrope, ride unicycles, juggle, weave ribbons, walk on stilts, do somersaults and handstands and learn the tricks of being a clown. In the afternoon,



Learning skills: Youngsters take part in a circus workshop. PHOTO: SIMON FINLAY

parents watched a polished circus performance by all the children.

The pre prep enjoyed a forest school day in the school grounds on Thursday.

After spending the morning exploring the woods, the children enjoyed a snack down by the pavilion before playing in the sand pit.

In the afternoon the children divided into groups for a spring

scavenger hunt in the grounds, finding clues and spotting evidence of spring.

Some very strange people were seen arriving at the school on Friday when staff and children arrived dressed as a character from their favourite book.

Children took part in a sponsored read - reception children had to read in silence for 15 minutes, Year 1 for 30 minutes

and Year 2 for 45 minutes. The money raised will go to buy more books for the pre prep library.

Head of Pre-Prep Lindsey Davies said: "Taking part in an activity week each year is something the children will always remember. It provides an opportunity to expand the curriculum even further and develops cooperation and friendship between year groups."

Quiz night helps project

A local law firm has raised more than £600 for charity at its annual quiz night.

Cozens-Hardy LLP held its Annual Estate Agents Quiz at the end of 2012, nominating the Matthew Project, a local charity working with people affected by drug and alcohol issues, to benefit from the money raised.

Teams from Archant, Auction House, Arnolds Keys, Brown and Co, Jackson Stops, Pymm & Co, Savills and Warners took part.

The evening raised £600 for the charity, much of which came from team entry fees and

the proceeds from a raffle. Prizes included books, vouchers and donations from The Last Wine Bar and Norwich Theatre Royal.

Philippa Rudd, principal and head of Cozens-Hardy's residential property department, said: "Our annual estate agents quiz just gets bigger and better and I was really pleased that we were able to support the Matthew Project this year.

"We always try to support local charities and the Matthew Project offers amazing support to so many young people in the region affected by drugs or alcohol."



Presentation: Sharon Hulbert from the Matthew Project presents Philippa Rudd with a certificate.

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