

NEWS

Our pick of the top parenting and education news

A royal affair

[Gresham's School, Norfolk]

HRH The Princess Royal flew into Gresham's by helicopter to open the new music school, the Britten Building in July. She was greeted by an excitable group of Pre-Prep and Prep pupils as she arrived, and to commemorate the opening of the building, she planted a tree outside and unveiled a plaque in the foyer.

The Princess Royal, who is now Gresham's *Ex Officio* Governor, was also there to hand out awards to 80 pupils at the annual Speech Day celebration. Headmaster, Douglas Robb said that the school felt "deeply honoured" by HRH's attendance and new appointment as a governor.

Pupils studied rock taken during the Apollo missions of the 1960s and 1970s



REACH FOR THE MOON!

[Kings Monkton School, Cardiff]

A rare collection of moon rocks and meteorites landed at Kings Monkton School in the summer term, enabling pupils to get their hands on real pieces of space.

Pupils enjoyed a unique experience using geologist lenses to magnify pieces of moon rock, as well as a nickel-iron meteorite that is 4.5 billion years old.

The collection was provided by the Science and Technology Facilities Council, which offers free loans of the lunar samples to schools across the UK. Visit stfc.ac.uk



PREP-TASTIC PERFORMANCES

[Desert Park School, Cotswolds]

Desert Park School's performing arts centre pulsed to the sound of live rock and pop tracks when pupils took to the stage to belt out their favourite songs. The "Rock on Summer" concert saw performers either singing or playing an instrument to a packed audience. Other groups included three choirs and even string quartets. Miss Taylor, Director of Music, said: "The summer crop of singer-songwriters in the prep is definitely inspiring a new generation of music-lover musicians!"



THAT'S AWESOME!

[Cranleigh Prep, Surrey]

Hundreds of young readers from schools in the South East voted in this year's Awesome Book Awards, which saw Ross Welford (left), pick up the top prize for his novel, *Time Travelling with a Hamster*.

The awards, which were created by Cranleigh Prep's Head of English, Katie Schutte, honour the best new fiction authors for children aged between seven and 10.