

Thursday 8th October 2026

PGL Day 4 update

Wow, this morning was tough – who knew a 7:25am breakfast would be such a challenge?! 7am rolled around and we had to wake most of the children up! Luckily for Mrs Arnold, Mrs Cheeseman and Miss Laurence, Miss Lewis was up, banging on doors and calling out like one of those really annoying alarm clocks that don't snooze and just don't stop! (We do love you really Miss Lewis, but none of the children did this morning). After staggering into breakfast, the children actually sat fairly quietly to eat... for all of 20 seconds before the food hit and they remembered their secret pact to be super noisy and hyper!! Tomorrow morning is the same time... none of us are looking forward to the early morning breakfast!

All ready for the day's activities, we once again had to kick Neorge the imposter out and make sure George was sharing the day with us. The morning started with groups 1 and 2 doing archery, Mrs Cheeseman's favourite and she did not disappoint! After Heidi teaching us how to shoot an arrow, the children practiced with their first three arrows before we played the holiday game! Each colour target held a destination for the first arrow, a mode of transport for the second and who they would be travelling with for the third. This included when we missed – which was 'a hungry, grumpy Miss Lewis'. Barbie's dream house the golden destination, which a few children achieved but they were definitely disappointed not to be going with the Lorax, who was more interesting than Santa apparently? Mrs Cheeseman managed to achieve her goal of going to the ocean and Miss Laurence (from the shed next door) heard her exclaim 'yes, I'm going to the ocean people!' Over in group 2, Aleta and Charlie smashed it with a bullseye and there was some excellent aiming. Some arrows were flying way too high, with Miss Laurence assuming that they were distracted by birds! Group 3 took to the sensory trail! The first challenge for the children was to stand in a straight line... without the goggles. Once we had finally mastered that skill, the children practiced walking with their blackout goggles (remember the dodgy looking minions? Yep, they were back again!) Miss Lewis decided to take the perfect opportunity to test whether the children recognised their teacher, occasionally standing in front of them with children becoming more and more confused as to how the child in front of them had suddenly grown. As the children approached the end of the sensory trail, Miss Lewis decided to see how long she could keep Seb and Izzy crawling on all fours. The other minions thoroughly enjoyed yelling out, watch out for the branch and don't fall into the hole. Izzy decided quite quickly (well sort of) that she wasn't playing this game anymore, however Seb carried on for another couple of metres. He became somewhat of an expert dodging imaginary holes before taking off his minion goggles and declaring that Miss Lewis was the worst.

Next groups 1 and 2 tackled the zipwire. Miss Laurence challenged Olivia I to scream like Tarzan whilst she was flying through the air, which she did with great gusto! These children managed to do a better job at continuing to run when they hit the ground, other than Sidarth who was pretending to be spiderman so forgot to run completely! Kim, our instructor asked Mrs Cheeseman if she was going to have a go and finally convinced her. Cue Mrs Cheeseman struggling into her harness and looking terrified. As she finally walked up the stairs, listening to another school cheer and chant their teachers name lovingly, she felt this could go better than expected... until she walked up the stairs. Picking up Misha's carabiner, which had bounced its way up the metal stairs, she dropped her own trolley which promptly bounced all the way back down. By the time she finally arrived at the top, her adoring fans, otherwise known as Bannister class groups 1 and 2 were gathered below her. With a warm glow and feeling special she went to step off the ledge, only to realise the children were chanting 'Cheesy, Cheesy' and closely followed by 'Quavers, Quavers'. There goes all my dignity! With a scream she flew down the zip wire and had to be released by Mrs Arnold. I am dreading the photos! Group 3 tried the abseiling after yesterday's disaster on the climbing wall. Surprisingly, they did better on the abseiling wall! Despite the height, most of the children faced their fears with some deciding it was too much and others launching themselves off. Only Blake ended up faceplanting the wall so that is definitely an improvement on yesterday!

Lunch meant that we had a chance to warm up and feed the hungry troops before marching into the afternoon activities.

Survivor... we all joined forces on a search for Bear Grylls (or was that just the teachers?) Miss Laurence being devastated that we did not find him! The children were split into their groups to build a shelter, using some instructions. When you hear the instructor shout 'how strong do you think you are?' you dread to think what might be happening. It was at this point we saw a group of boys trying to carry an entire tree trunk to put inside their shelter! It made us laugh that all groups focussed on the little things to make it more homely, the garden and interior design. It was then onto fire lighting, practising with flint and steel. Let's just say Miss Lewis has a way to go to teach the children this skill effectively! The perseverance award goes to Tom for really sticking with it when the cotton wool just refused to light. The roar of celebration for him was so heartwarming to hear.

This evening's activity was a traditional campfire! When Miss Laurence and Mrs Cheeseman finally arrived, we found everyone gathered around a roaring fire, with Alex and Wes telling a story of their most recent holiday, which sounded like somewhat of a disaster! After booking their plane to Spain on the wrong day, and meeting a pirate, we launched into song! Only to find out that our children cannot rhyme for toffee! 'When I was two, I had a gun?' Nope, try again, 'When I was two, I waved goodbye' – nope, try again! 'When I was two, I was crawling'... wow! After our pirate adventure, we ended up in Brazil where a random snake appeared. So, we then had to sing a song which was called 'I've been eaten by a Boa Constrictor', which Mrs Cheeseman totally misheard and spent most of the time singing 'I've been eating my Boa Constrictor, I don't like it very much.' She was highly confused that someone would 1) eat a Boa Constrictor, 2) if they didn't like it then why keep eating it and 3) if they were eating the Boa Constrictor, how was it eating them too? It wasn't until it ate our shoulders in the song that she figured the problem. Cue hysterical laughing and us being a very bad influence! It wasn't as bad as Miss Laurence's misunderstanding, which included her being very confused as to why a slightly inappropriate word was being used instead of arm. We had already got past the bottom Miss Laurence! When you pick up your children tomorrow, please look out for the potential bruising on Miss Laurence's face after she became acquainted with a very large tree which was directly in front of her!

Arriving back in the bedrooms, we are all very excited about coming home tomorrow – no one more so than the teachers! The evening has consisted in packing and bedtime, though we are concerned at the number of random socks that we think will be floating around the rooms tomorrow! We are aiming to be home around the end of the school day.

Wish us luck for the morning!

Over and out from the final episode of 'probably getting lost' whilst parents enjoy 'peace, quiet and luxury.' (Which Mrs Cheeseman has only just realised, after being told by children, that the parent's part doesn't even start with P,G,L and is now feeling quite disappointed with herself!)