

YOUR EDUCATION NEWS

Paralympian visits Banstead pavilion to inspire next sporting generation

PREP SCHOOL WELCOMES RIO MEDALLIST AND STRICTLY COME DANCING CONTESTANT LAUREN

CHILDREN, staff and parents at Banstead Prep School were thrilled to welcome Paralympian and world champion Lauren Steadman for the official unveiling of their new sports pavilion.

The special opening celebrations, which also brought together parents, friends and the Mayor of Reigate and Banstead, saw the children test out their new facilities and hear from Lauren about her triumphs at the Rio Paralympics.

As part of the day's events, Lauren met children from across the school and explained her background, being born with a disability but with a constant determination to achieve her goals.

She also encouraged the children to find something they love doing by trying new opportunities and experiences.

This is something that staff at Banstead Prep School are keen to promote as part of an 'Education with Character' — an education that inspires, excites and challenges children of all ages.

Despite forecast thunderstorms forcing the afternoon's sporting activities inside, it stayed dry for the official ribbon-cutting and raising of the school flag.

The sports captains were the first children to look inside the new



Banstead Prep School pupils with Lauren Steadman and the Mayor of Reigate and Banstead

pavilion building, taking Lauren on a tour of the facilities, which already include full-sized hockey AstroTurf and grass pitches, a full-sized sports hall and indoor swimming pool. Hockey captain Emilie said: "The pavilion is fantastic — there's so much more space for us to get

changed and for all our kit."

Lauren said: "It was lovely to see how excited the children were — that's what it's all about."

Dr Rose Gerrard, whose children are in Year 1, said: "The event was incredible: it's so inspirational for the children to meet someone like

Lauren and see that silver medal."

Banstead Prep School's head teacher, Vicky Ellis, said: "Sport is a huge part of Banstead Prep school life.

"We are delighted to be able to further enhance our excellent sports facilities for the future by investing

in the sports pavilion. I can't wait to finally see it in use by our children and visiting teams."

Head of sport Gavin Jones said: "The new sports pavilion will be fantastic for Banstead Prep, cementing the brilliant sporting opportunities we already offer."

Running the race of their young lives

EVERY girl at Manor House School in Bookham recently ran in their very own Race for Life in support of Cancer Research UK.

A representative of the school said: "It was fantastic to see such community spirit today, when our whole school came together in support of a very worthy charitable cause.

"Following our hugely successful Surrey Macmillan Cancer Big Breakfast Fundraiser in late September, we held another

fundraising event involving every year group, in support of Cancer Research UK."

Every Manor House girl in the prep and senior school donated £2 to take part, wearing an item of pink over their school uniform to run or walk as close to 5k as possible. It was a real occasion to see every year group running out onto the sports fields in recognition of others who are fighting cancer.

All proceeds will be sent to Cancer Research UK shortly.



Manor House girls stride out in support of Cancer Research UK

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