

Hall Grove School Newsletter



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10th December 2010

Edition No: 357

This has been a difficult end of term with a lot of sickness amongst staff and pupils and a great deal of disruption by the weather. It is to the credit of the boys and girls that we have kept a good spirit going right up to the final week and we are now ready to enjoy all the events of the last week of term.

Congratulations to the Pre-Prep on an excellent Nativity Play on Thursday, and our thanks to the generous gifts from the parents who donated over £850 for our Hall Grove Christmas Collection. Please note that there will be retiring collections taken at both the Middle School Concert on Monday and at the Carol Service next Thursday. We will also be fundraising on the last day of term for our four chosen charities and for Sebastian's Action Trust.

Hall Grove Christmas Collection

The School Council elected to support the following charities this year: Barnardo's, the Haiti Appeal, the Pakistan Flood Victims Appeal and the Frimley Park Hospital 'Heart 2 Heart' Appeal. We would greatly appreciate your support. Cheques should be made payable to Hall Grove School Limited (marked Christmas Collection on the back).

Don't Miss The Post!

Thanks to Leo the Handyman we have a smart new postbox at the front of the school for the Hall Grove Charity Post. The internal mail system is run by the pupils of Year 8. They will operate a Post Office on the gallery of New Hall before Assembly and at break times where 'Hall Grove Stamps' can be obtained prior to cards being posted in the new postbox. It is suggested that children bring in a donation for these stamps; any multiple of 50p is recommended.

Choristers

Miss Taylor apologises for her continued absence. She has been quite ill and has had a short time in hospital. Choristers rehearsals will resume next week under the leadership of Mr Waltho who will direct the Carol Service.

Carol Singers

To boost the Choristers in church on Thursday, we would be grateful for the assistance of any parent singers who could help form a back line to the choir. If you are a tenor, bass, alto or soprano and can read music (to a greater or lesser extent), please email Mr Waltho (j.waltho@hallgrove.surrey.sch.uk). We would ask the parents to attend the practice at 1400 on Thursday at Windlesham Church just prior to the service. After the service the adult singers would be most welcome to join the staff for drinks and mince pies at school.

Middle School Christmas Concert - Monday 13th December

On Monday 13th December all pupils in Years 3, 4 and 5 will be taking part in the Middle School Christmas Concert which will start at 1900 and parents, grandparents and friends of the pupils performing are most welcome to come along. The doors will open for the audience at 1840.

Pupils in Years 3 – 5 should be collected at 1600. Year 5 children must be returned to school for 1815 and Years 3 and 4 children between 1840 and 1845, coming straight to the Admiral Room. For those children who have siblings in the Upper School, parents may collect the older children at the same time.

'Hall Grove's Got Talent' - Thursday 16th December

'Hall Grove's Got Talent' is taking place on Thursday 16th December at 1000 in New Hall. Pupils of all ages are busy preparing music, songs, dance routines, comedy sketches and gymnastic displays! Parents are more than welcome to join the audience.

Library Christmas Character Competition - Thursday 16th December

The competition is open to children in Years 3 to 8. There will be a winner and runner-up prize for each year group. To win a great book prize the children must dress up as their favourite Christmas character from a book, song or carol (e.g. Scrooge from 'A Christmas Carol' or Frosty the Snowman). They will need to bring their costume in on Thursday 16th December, change into it before the Talent Show and then show the judges after which the winners will be chosen. For further information, contact Mrs Bennett in the Library.

Carol Service - Thursday 16th December

The Carol Service will be taking place on Thursday 16th December at 1630. All of Years 6, 7 and 8 will be taken to Windlesham Church from school. Parents and their guests are welcome to attend; it is a very special occasion with beautiful music and the church is candlelit. Children may be taken home from the church or from school at 1745.

Carols in the Courtyard and Mini Christmas Fair - Friday 17th December

Enjoy the festive atmosphere as we gather in the courtyard in front of the Coach House at 1045 next Friday. There will be mince pies, mulled wine and Christmas Carols to finish the term. The drive will be closed and parking will be on the tennis courts and playing field.

There will be a mini Christmas Fair taking place in the courtyard from 1000 to 1200. There will be games for the children to play, tombolas, Christmas gifts and last minute decorations to buy. Mrs Lavery will be selling Suzie Marsh sculptures (Suzie is a member of the Royal British Society of Sculptors and has a workshop in Liskeard, Cornwall). The sculptures are bronze resin animals - cats, dogs, mice, rats, meerkats and moon bears. Please do come along and join in the seasonal fun at the Fair.

End of Term Arrangements - Friday 17th December

Term ends on Friday 17th December. The collection times are as follows:

1100	Reception
1115	Years 1 and 2
1130	Years 3, 4 and 5
1145	Years 6, 7 and 8

Please ensure that the children have all been taken home by 1200; there is a staff meeting then so we are unable to look after stragglers. Older pupils may leave with their younger siblings.

After School Clubs and TASC

Please note that the final clubs of this term are today. TASC will operate as usual until Thursday 16th December, inclusive. Please remember to book any TASC requirements by contacting the School Office.

After School Clubs - Spring Term 2011

Club spaces have now been allocated. Upper School Fun Food Club will not be running due to insufficient demand. With the exception of that and the clubs where we have had to limit numbers (affected children's parents have already been notified), children have been successful in gaining places for the clubs of their choice next term.

Spring Term 2011

Term starts on Monday 10th January and normal drop off and collection times apply. Breakfast will be available for those who have booked it and TASC commences on the first day of term. After school clubs start on Monday 17th January.

Spring Term 2011 School Calendar

A provisional copy of the calendar will be available on the school website from Friday 17th December. The finalised printed copy will be sent home with the first newsletter of next term. Please note the weekend commitments. Parents are reminded that all boys and girls are expected to be available for whole year group training sessions and weekend matches if they are regular team players.

2011 Burns Night - Friday 4th February

We are hoping to host another evening of Scottish revelry at Hall Grove on Friday 4th February with a traditional supper and Scottish dancing. All parents are welcome. Put the date in your diaries and tell your friends. Details of tickets and cost to follow.

Chickenpox

There has been a case of chickenpox reported in Pre-Prep. A child remains infectious until all the spots have crusted over and must be absent from school during this time. Chickenpox is highly contagious and the incubation period is ten to twenty-one days.

Sports News

Netball

8th December v Coworth-Flexlands U11 A VII lost

Next Wednesday will see the conclusion of the netball season with House Matches for girls in Years 5 to 8 starting at 1415. Parents are most welcome to attend.

Rugby

8th December v King's House 1st XV won, 2nd XV lost, Colts A XII won, Colts B XII drew, U10 A IX lost

Weekend Fixtures - Saturday 11th December

Rugby v Thomas's Battersea 1st XV, 2nd XV, Colts A XII and U10 A IX to meet at Hall Grove at 0930 for home matches starting at 1000

Hall Grove Eco Warriors – Don't let the snow beat us!

The snow may have got the better of the Christmas Fair, but we are determined not to be beaten. Hall Grove Eco Warriors is a group of children in Years 5 and 8 who are keen to raise funds to support projects that will protect our environment. We have produced some really smart sports drinking bottles – complete with the club logo. We want to sell them to raise money for The Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust which works to save species from extinction all over the world. We have the bottles – all we need now are customers! We wanted to sell them to you at the fair but the snow put paid to that so now we would like to raise the much needed funds by selling them to you anyway! The bottles make great stocking fillers and are perfect for matches, training or day trips – you can see them in the School Office. If you would like to order your limited edition bottles, please use the enclosed order form. Thank you!

The Hall Grove Eco Warriors

Golf and Tennis Association

Booking forms for next term's golf and tennis lessons are enclosed with this newsletter. Please return your completed form and payment to the School Office by Friday 17th December. There will be a change of coach for the tennis lessons; sadly Voytek, this term's coach, will not be returning to Hall Grove. The timings for tennis lessons are fairly flexible and we are happy to try and fit in with your child's commitments; however, the timings for golf lessons will be as per the Booking Form. All lessons operate with a minimum of four children and a maximum of eight. If you are not members of the Association but would like to be, we would love to have you. Please contact Bev Worthington on 01344 624563.

Mother's Help/Nanny Required

Mother's help/nanny required from January - Monday to Friday from 1300 to 1600, term time only. If interested, please contact Mrs Leech on 07786 556463.

*The Headmaster and Staff wish all Hall Grove families a very Happy Christmas
and all good fortune for the New Year*

