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28th January 2011 Edition No: 360

Another full and busy week with some exciting sport and very enjoyable music. We were pleased by the contribution Hall Grove made to the St. John's School Orchestral Day. This newsletter highlights a number of good events that are coming up so do please mark your diaries carefully.

Only three weeks to go until half-term, tempus fugit!

Engagement Announcement

We offer our warmest congratulations to Mr Edward Marland on his recent engagement to Miss Jo Fisher. Our very best wishes to them both.

Music Masterclasses

We were delighted to have had another visit by the international conductor Simon Wright. He has recently conducted the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the BBC Philharmonic and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, and he has recorded with EMI, Nimbus and Naxos. Mr Wright is an outstanding musician who has worked with numerous international soloists. Last week, potential music scholars and other selected pupils were fortunate to benefit from his expertise in a day of masterclasses. Mr Wright's inspirational tuition helped to develop fantastic performances from these young musicians. Our thanks to Miss Taylor for organising the day.

Upper School Speakers

Upper School Speaker - Tuesday 1st February

On Tuesday 1st February at 1630 we will welcome a Speaker for the Upper School - Tom Clowes. Tom and Ben Clowes became the first British brothers to summit Mount Everest together in May 2006. Tom believes that if you want to do something enough you can - you just have to believe in yourself. He loves a challenge and has cycled from John O'Groats to Lands End with no support, he has ridden the Cresta Run and fallen at Shuttlecock Corner, he has run with the bulls in Pamplona and flown with eagles on his paraglider over the foothills of Mount Olympus in Greece. We are sure that children, staff and any parents attending will be looking forward to an interesting insight into his adventurous life.

If you wish to attend, please email Mr Waltho (j.waltho@hallgrove.surrey.sch.uk) in advance. Please note the pick up times for this event will be different from normal: Year 6 at 1725, Year 7 at 1735 and Year 8 at 1745.

3CM Assembly - Thursday 3rd February

The children in 3CM would like to invite their parents to their Class Assembly on Thursday 3^{rd} February. If you are able to attend, please be in New Hall by 0830. We look forward to seeing you there.

SATIPS Challenge 2011 - Thursday 3rd February

On Thursday 3rd February the children in Years 5 - 8 will all take part in the SATIPS Challenge 2011. The Challenge consists of a 60 minute written paper with one or two word answers to 100 general knowledge questions. There are two age groups - Senior (Years 7 and 8) and Junior (Years 5 and 6). This is open to all prep schools across the country, and the five highest scoring papers in each age group from each school will be entered for the School Prize. There are also individual prizes for high scoring pupils across the country. We hope the children will enjoy the challenge!

Upper School Debate - Thursday 3rd February

On Thursday 3rd February the following motion will be debated: "This House believes that climate change presents the greatest threat to the future of humanity". Proposing the motion will be Eleanor Henderson and JJ van Limborgh, opposing will be

Jessica Gadd and Abigail Gunning. There are sure to be spirited speeches from the floor. Parents are welcome to support the event which will take place in the Dining Hall at 1630. All those attending will be eligible to vote.

Burns Night Supper - Friday 4th February

Enjoy a fun and inexpensive evening out with friends. Tickets are available from the School Office at £15 per head (cheques payable to Hall Grove School Limited please). All parents and their guests are most welcome to attend.

Headlice

There has been a case of headlice reported in Middle School. We would ask you to check all members of your family this weekend and, if lice are found, treat as soon as possible with the lotion recommended by your chemist. Regular checks at home are important. Lice spread rapidly and, if we are going to keep the problem at bay, we do need your co-operation.

Instrumental Timetables

Instrumental timetables are available to view on the website in the 'News' section on the front page. Please be aware that whilst some timetables last for a half term, others are updated accordingly. Any last minute amendments will be displayed on the Music noticeboard by Matron's Room.

Team Sheet Information

After teams have been selected, team sheets are posted on the fixtures noticeboards and on the website in the 'Sports' section on the front page. The sheets will be available to view on the website by the end of the school day before the day of the fixture. Team sheets also include departure times for weekend matches. Parents are welcome to attend all matches to support their children.

Sports News

Girls' Hockey

26th January v Highfield 1st VII won, 2nd VII won

26th January v Bishopsgate U11 VII lost, U10 A VII won, U10 B VII won

27th January v St. Andrew's U9 VII drew

U13 Girls' Hockey Tournament - Saturday 29th January

The 1st VII and 2nd VII will take part in the annual Hall Grove U13 Girls' Hockey Tournament on Saturday morning. Please arrive by 0940, ready for a prompt start at 1000. The tournament will finish by 1230. Refreshments will be available for parents throughout the morning.

Rugby

26th January v Ludgrove 1st XV won, Colts A XII won

2nd XV, 3rd XII, Colts B and C XII, U10 A, B and C IX lost

27th January v Papplewick U8 A VII drew, U8 B VII won, U8 C VII lost

Junior House Rugby Matches - Thursday 3rd February

Years 3 and 4 boys will be playing House Rugby Matches next Thursday starting at 1415.

Junior Rugby Colours

Earlier in the term, Morgan Hammans (Year 6) was awarded junior colours for rugby and this week congratulations go to Henry Gadd (Year 6) and Joshua Wyke (Year 6) who have also been awarded junior colours.

National Schools Rugby Tournament Regional Qualifications - Sunday 6th February

Boys will be given the information at the beginning of next week regarding this tournament which will be taking place at King's House for the U13s and Epsom College for the U11s. Please feel free to come and support your children as it is always greatly appreciated.

Hockey Season

The boys' hockey season starts on Monday for Years 3 and above. Black bins will be placed outside the Sports Office on Monday morning, clearly labelled for each year group, where the children can leave their hockey sticks should they wish to use their own. Please make sure that sticks are clearly named. However, children are not required to have their own sticks and the school will provide them for those who do not have one. Please be aware that the boys must have shinpads and mouthguards in school for hockey.

Hockey Masterclass - Monday 21st February

Places are filling up quickly for the hockey masterclass being taken by Steve Batchelor during half term. Please return your form as soon as possible if you would like your child to participate.

The Wizard of Oz

We're off to see the wizard, the wonderful Wizard of Oz. We hear he is a whiz of a wiz, if ever a wiz there was!.....

Rehearsals are now underway and we would like to give you advance notice of our evening performance dates in the Summer Term: Thursday 12th May and Friday 13th May.

Use It Or Lose It!

Bagshot Library is facing threats over its future. Many local residents may not even be aware of its existence! It is located in the narrow section of the High Street opposite the vet. If you think it is an important local amenity, please visit with your children and sign the petition. The petition is also available in the Post Office and at the village café.

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Nanny Wanted

Required from March 2011 to look after three children aged 4, 2 and 8 months (the eldest is at school) on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 0800 to 1800. For further details, please contact Sophie Womack on 07801 370795.

Mother's Helper Wanted

Mother's Helper/ Nanny wanted 2-3 mornings a week for 4 month old baby. Experience with infants and references requested. Must provide own transportation to/from Egham. If interested, please call Katherine Hughes on 07707 382268.

Sebastian's Action Trust Events

Sebastian's Action Trust are holding two events this term at which they would welcome Hall Grove families and their friends to join them.

Chinese Meal - Thursday 17th February

To celebrate Chinese New Year, albeit belatedly, The Jade Fountain in Sunninghill is hosting a special dinner on Thursday 17th February in aid of the Trust. £30 a head for a 4-course meal including coffee/tea. For further information and to reserve your place please go to their website (www.sebastiansactiontrust.org).

Ladies Lunch - Tuesday 8th March

Giancarlo and Katie Caldesi, stars of the BBC TV's Return to Tuscany programme and popular guest chefs on Saturday Kitchen, Masterchef and BBC Breakfast will be opening the doors of their wonderful restaurant, Caldesi in Campagna, to host a Ladies Lunch on Tuesday 8th March in aid of Sebastian's Action Trust.

This is your chance to savour truly authentic Italian cooking at this vibrant country style restaurant in the village of Bray, which has a passion for seasonal and sustainable ingredients and which has received rave reviews for its incredible food and friendly, attentive service.

This three course lunch has been specially designed for the Trust and will be cooked by Giancarlo himself. You will be welcomed with a glass of prosecco, before sitting down for a mouthwatering lunch. Starting with a selection of crostini/bruschetta, the main course is a fillet of sea bass with chilli, garlic and parsley sauce served with warm salad of fine green beans, potatoes, cherry tomatoes and basil with a glass of red or white wine and finally pudding of brandy chocolate mousse. Coffee will be served with Italian homemade biscotti.

Giancarlo and Katie are so kind to support the charity - there is no doubt that their enthusiasm for cooking and passion for entertaining will make this a lunch to remember. Tickets cost just £35 per head including wine and coffee, so put the date in your diary, get a group of friends together and come and join us for a good old fashioned girly gossip and some fun. For tickets please visit www.sebastiansactiontrust.org

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