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Well, what a wedding! The school celebrated in style, watching the ceremony on our huge New Hall cinema screen (well done Mr Tyrer!), enjoying an extended play in the sunshine and a garden party lunch next to the new building. Red, white and blue fluttered from every available post and the day was full of good humour and good cheer. This was a day of national pride, one that we will all remember!

Engagement Announcement

We offer our warmest congratulations to Miss Catherine Marchesi on her recent engagement to Mr Gavin Hale. Our very best wishes to them both.

Hall Grove Open Gardens - Saturday 14th May

This is a charity event for the National Garden Scheme. The school grounds and gardens will be open for viewing from 1400 to 1700. The entry charge is £5 per adult, children free. Teas and a selection of plants will be on sale. Live music starts at 1500. The Concert Band should arrive at 1430 and the children can be collected from 1540. This is a lovely event, do please support it.

...We're Off To See The Wizard!

After many weeks of hard work, the cast and crew of The Wizard of Oz eagerly anticipate performing on the evenings of Thursday 12th May and Friday 13th May. On the performance nights we recommend pupils remain in school where supper will be provided. This will give them plenty of time to have their make-up done and to get into costumes. A number of parents have asked about costumes. Where possible these have been sourced in-house from our costume cupboard and children have been informed if they need anything specific. In most cases we are building upon the normal school uniform; however, if you have something at home to help accessorise your child's costume please feel free to send it in with them for the dress rehearsal. Please ensure Year 6 pupils (Munchkins and Jitterbugs) have the following in school: house t-shirt, white shorts, red and black games socks, a white t-shirt. We will be using professional face make-up for the performances. If you are aware of a problem with your child wearing this, please inform the School Office in writing as soon as possible.

For those who have requested tickets, please find them enclosed with this newsletter. There has been a high demand for tickets and they will be required to gain entry. Access to New Hall will be from the main doors at the bottom of the path and we ask that parents do not enter either via the balcony or changing rooms. Doors will open at 1845 with the performance starting at 1900. Please take your seats on a 'first come first served basis' without leaving any gaps. Standing room on the balcony will be limited. In contrast to previous performances, this year we have decided to allow some of the performers to sit at the front of the audience when they are not performing. This is something we will trial to make the experience more worthwhile and enjoyable for those involved. Pupils will ideally only move in-between scenes and we hope this will not cause too much inconvenience or distraction. There will be a short interval where light refreshments will be served outside (weather permitting). We anticipate the show finishing at approximately 2130 (perhaps a little later on the final evening). Following the performances, pupils must return to the Admiral Room for a debrief and to change as required. They will then be dismissed for collection from New Hall. As with all major shows, The Wizard of Oz hire agreement is very strict and we are required to inform you that filming is strictly forbidden.

And finally, please ensure those pupils performing are well-rested over the weekend. They have a busy week ahead...there is a storm brewing and they'll soon be somewhere over the rainbow....!

Year 6 Battisborough Trip - 16th to 20th May

Thank you to the Year 6 parents for returning the consent form for the forthcoming Battisborough trip. Please find enclosed a medical/contact form that we would ask you to complete and return to the School Office by Friday 13th May.

Chickenpox

There has been a case of chickenpox reported in the Upper School. 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

Rounders

4th May v St. George's Ascot 1st IX won
4th May v Oakfield 2nd IX won
4th May v Crosfields U10 B IX won

Calendar Addition - Saturday 21st May

On Saturday 21st May there will be Rounders House Matches for all girls in Years 5 to 8. The matches will start at 1000 and finish by 1130.

Tennis

4th May v St. George's Ascot 1st II lost

Cricket

4th May v Feltonfleet 1st XI won, Colts A XI won, Colts B XI won, U10 A XI won, U10 B XI won,

2nd XI, 3rd XI and 4th XI lost

4th May v Aldro U10 C XI lost

Weekend Fixtures - Saturday 7th May

Cricket v Parkside 2nd XI to meet at Hall Grove at 0900 for a home match starting at 0930

1st XI and U10 A XI to meet Mr Lewis and Mr Tomlinson at Parkside at 0900 for away

matches starting at 0930

Cricket v King's House Colts A and B XI to meet at Hall Grove at 0900 for home matches starting at 0930

Judo

Please note that there will be no judo lessons on Friday 13th May due the evening performance of The Wizard of Oz.

The Hall Grove Teams' Tournament has been re-scheduled from Saturday 14th May to Saturday 3rd December due to lack of entries from the invited schools.

The Boys' U10s IAPS Judo Tournament at High Wycombe is on Saturday 21st May. Please inform Mr Fricker as soon as possible if you would like to enter.

Elite Activity Camps

Elite Activity Camps are looking forward to launching their Summer Camp at Hall Grove from 25th July to 26th August. The camp will offer a rich variety of arts and crafts, sporting and adventure activities which will include 'Spider Mountain' and the ever popular Zorbs.

Bookings are now being taken. As parents of children attending Hall Grove School you are entitled to an early booking discount which, for bookings taken before the end of May, gives you a huge 20% off the three-day and weekly passes. This applies to siblings too, so call now FREE on 0800 668 1160 to take advantage of this great offer. Our friendly team are available from Monday to Friday 0900 to 1800 and also on Saturdays from 0900 to 1200.

Elite are now able to offer an extended day from 0800 to 1800 at a daily supplement of £10. For those parents facing the challenge of a commute to work on top of getting their children to camp we hope this will be of great value. See our website www.elitecamps.co.uk for more details of the camp or call today.

Katharine Tindall - Director

Groove at the Grove - Saturday 2nd July

Our favourite family event of the year is back and each year it gets better and better. We have James Cannon DJ-ing, The Glee Club and High School Party, John Prescott as Tom Jones and for those who couldn't get tickets to Take That we have Fake That, their best tribute band. There will be more live music and disco than ever before. Gates open at 1700. Domino's Pizza will be on sale with the obligatory beer tent and merchandise. All proceeds from this year's event will go to Help for Heroes. A big thank you to Hamptons International, MSG Group and Wooldridge for sponsoring this event. TICKETS NOW ON SALE (www.acapellagroup.co.uk/grooveatthegrove).

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Deep River Rock Belfast Marathon - Run in Memory of Ian Wooldridge

On behalf of the Wooldridge family I am very proud to report that we all completed our runs on Monday – and would like to say a big thank you to all those people who sponsored us in memory of Ian. We have been raising funds for the Mourne Mountain Rescue Team in Northern Ireland, who were kind enough to escort myself and Rhett up Shanlieve Mountain last Saturday. The team are trying to raise funds for a new rescue vehicle and they have been overwhelmed by the support that has been given. The website remains open so please visit http://www.justgiving.com/twelveoaks if you would like to add a donation.

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