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25th November 2011 Edition No: 387

The last full week in November, exams completed, now we can look towards some exciting activities leading up to the end of term. We also open the Hall Grove Christmas Collection, an opportunity for us to raise money for three charities. Details of the selected charities will follow next week. We hope pupils, parents and staff will support this appeal generously. Last year we raised over f,2,000.

Please also support the Craft Fair this Saturday. It is always a good event and it is in aid of a very worthwhile charity that is close to Hall Grove's heart, Sebastian's Action Trust.

Years 7 and 8 Parent Interview Schedules

The Years 7 and 8 schedules were sent home with the children on Tuesday for the Parent Interviews taking place on Monday and Wednesday of next week.

Upper School Lunchtime Concert - Thursday 1st December

An informal Upper School Lunchtime Concert will take place on Thursday 1st December from 1315 to 1345 in New Hall. A list of the children selected to play in the concert will be posted on the Music Department noticeboard by the archway. The concert is a wonderful way for children to practise the art of performance in a friendly environment and provide a focus for learning. Parents and friends of participating pupils are welcome to attend the event.

Music Department

On Thursday we were treated to a Middle School Informal Lunchtime Concert. With the Associated Board exams coming up for some, this was a good opportunity for hard work to be praised by a very appreciative audience. Will Saltzman (Year 4) reminded us that those who have lessons outside of school are very welcome to show off their skills. All of our budding performers should be very proud of themselves, especially Evangeline Waltho (Year 4) with her very confident 'cello playing and Pierre Gathy (Year 3), who is clearly making excellent progress on the recorder. Well done, everyone!

Mrs Salmond Smith

Year 7 Theatre Trip to 'Cinderella' - Tuesday 13th December

On the morning of Tuesday 13th December all Year 7 pupils will be going to Camberley Theatre to enjoy a performance of 'Cinderella' (featuring former Eastender's actress Louisa Lytton). The trip will take place within normal school hours and comes at no extra cost.

Year 7 have now started work on their own production of 'Cinderella' in Dance and Drama lessons, which will be performed during the Spring Term on the evening of Friday 20th January. We would also like to give advance notice of the only weekend rehearsal, on Saturday 14th January from 1300 to 1700. Thank you for your support, we hope you enjoy the show (oh no you won't... OH YES YOU WILL!).

Footsteps Watch Week

Footsteps Watch Week is taking place next week, on Tuesday 6th December and Friday 9th December, in normal dance class times. We hope parents will take this opportunity to watch their child enjoying the class and see what has been achieved during the term. To alleviate congestion in the corridor, parents are asked not to enter the Dining Hall through the main school, but to follow the directions given out at this week's classes. Thank you for your co-operation and we look forward to seeing you there.

Miss Stein

Hall Grove's Got Talent

The time has come to launch proceedings for our much anticipated annual talent show and we hope this year it will be bigger and better than ever. From Monday, pupils in Years 3 to 8 can sign up to perform an act in one of the following categories: Singing, Dancing, Acting or Entertaining. All acts will be subject to the usual audition process and each piece must be no greater than two minutes in length. Previous years' winners include everything from a fantastic gymnastic routine to a thrilling magic display. We have tightened up the rules for singing, and children will no longer be allowed to sing over the top of other vocals. Mr Heffer has very kindly put together a list of 'show songs' for those who wish to take on a musical number.

This end of term celebration is produced by the children, for the children; however, parents are very welcome at the back of the hall should they wish to join us on the day. The show will commence at 1000 in New Hall on the morning of Thursday 15th December. Please contact Mr Slape via his email (d.slape@hallgrove.co.uk) if you have any queries or require any further information.

Sports News

Netball

23rd November v Hurst Lodge: 1st VII won, U11 B won

23rd November v Lyndhurst: U11 A won

23rd November v Highfield, Maidenhead: U10 A lost

23rd November v St. George's, Ascot: 1st VII lost

24th November v Eagle House: U9 A lost, U9 B won, U8 A won, U8 B drew

Rugby

19th November - Hall Grove 10-a-side Rugby Tournament: 1st X finished second in the bowl

23rd November - Highfield Rugby Tournament: 1st X finished in fifth place

23rd November v Aldro: 2nd XV lost, 3rd XV won, Colts A, Colts B, U10 A and U10 B lost

23rd November v Feltonfleet: Colts A, Colts B, U10 A and U10 C lost, U10 B won

24th November v Hoe Bridge: U9 A, B and C lost

Football

24th November v Lanesborough: U8 A, C and E lost, U8 B drew, U8 D drew

King's House Rugby Tournament - Saturday 26th November

The U10 and U9 teams are to meet at Hall Grove at 0800 for a prompt departure. The first match is at 0930. Please note the matches are being played at the Old Civil Service Grounds in Chiswick, just off the A316.

Years 5 and 6 Rugby Training - Saturday 26th November

The Rugby training session for Years 5 and 6 has been cancelled.

Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to all the parents, pupils and staff who contributed to the Shoebox Appeal. The total number of boxes collected from Hall Grove was 83 and we have been told that their destination is Kurdistan.

Craft and Gift Fair - Saturday 26th November - 1100 to 1500

Don't forget the Craft and Gift Fair tomorrow - there are lots of original gifts, plenty of fun and games for the children to enjoy and delicious refreshments too. Bacon and sausage rolls will be sold from 1100, but coffee will be available earlier so if you're dropping children off for sports come along to the refreshment stand in the Wessex courtyard. Domino's pizzas will be arriving at 1200 and Krispy Kreme doughnuts are available until they run out! Come and start (or finish) your Christmas shopping and have a great day out. All proceeds go to Sebastian's Action Trust who organise the event.

Meirion Shaw

Year 1 will have a 'Sinking It for Sebastian Action Trust' booth featuring an opportunity to put for prizes as well as enter a raffle for the new TaylorMade Ghost Spider Putter. You need not be present to win so if you cannot make it to the Fair be sure to send £5 in with a friend for six chances to win the cool new white putter!

Visit 'The Superior Sausage' stall at the Fair tomorrow to sample and buy a variety of meat and vegetarian sausages. How about an alternative gift for the man who has everything? Design your own sausage - made to order.

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For Sale

A Yamaha trumpet and a Buffet clarinet. For further information, please email Mrs Dempster (maxinedempster@yahoo.co.uk).

