

Hall Grove School Newsletter



www.hallgrove.co.uk

9th December 2011

Edition No: 389

Congratulations to the pupils and staff of the Pre-Prep for an excellent Christmas Show on Thursday. The singing and dancing was confident and assured with the children taking control in an independent way. It was most impressive. We look forward to the Middle School Concert on Monday and to the Carol Service in Windlesham Church on Thursday.

Hall Grove Christmas Collection

The School Council elected to support the following charities this year: Home Start Surrey Heath (supporting local families going through difficult times), the Meningitis Research Foundation (supporting people affected by this terrible disease) and Over the Wall (providing short holidays for severely disabled children). All money raised at the various Christmas events will be shared between these three good causes. We would greatly appreciate your donations. Cheques should be made payable to Hall Grove School Limited (marked Christmas Collection on the back).

The Apprentices

On Wednesday a group of enterprising students from Bryanston School visited Hall Grove to present and sell to the Middle and Upper School products that they had designed and manufactured. £867.55 was raised - all the money is going to the Hall Grove Christmas Charity Collection.

Don't Miss The Post!

The Hall Grove Charity Post is an internal mail system run by the pupils of Year 8. They will operate a Post Office in the new Garden Rooms before Assembly and at break times from Monday where 'Hall Grove Stamps' can be obtained prior to cards being posted in the postbox which was made by Leo last year. Children should bring in a donation for the stamps.

After School Clubs and TASC

Please note that the final clubs of this term are today. TASC will operate as usual until Thursday 15th December, inclusive. Please remember to book any TASC requirements as it is likely to be busy next week.

After School Clubs - Spring Term 2012

Next term's club information was sent out via email on Tuesday and the deadline for returning forms was today. If you have missed the deadline but still wish to enrol your child/children for a club, please return your form to the School Office on Monday morning. Please be aware that the following clubs are already full: Middle School - Fun Food (Mondays and Tuesdays) and Ceramics.

Going Wild in the Woods

Further to the information that went out this week, here is a little more about the new Bushcraft Club for Years 6, 7 and 8 on a Thursday evening next term:

Bushcraft is a club that will be based in 'The Grove', the newly developed outdoor classroom in the school woods. Over the course of the term the boys and girls will be introduced to aspects of woodlore, survival skills, open air cookery, rope and knot work and basic construction techniques. It will be Hall Grove's answer to Ray Mears. There is the option at the end of term to experience an overnight camp (subject to an additional charge). The club will be led by two experts in woodland management whose experience and ability is well known to Hall Grove and has been well tested in the past. It will take place in all weathers ("There is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing!"). All equipment and outdoor clothing provided.

Pre-Prep Nativity Photographs and DVDs

Photographs of the children in their Nativity costumes are available to purchase via the following link (http://www.theimagefile.com/web/hall-grove-school/your_images.html). Please use the password of 'admiral' to access the images. Attached is a DVD order form. If you would like to purchase copies, please complete and return the form to the School Office with your payment.

Middle School Christmas Concert - Monday 12th December

On Monday 12th December all pupils in Years 3, 4 and 5 will be taking part in the Middle School Christmas Concert. The concert will start at 1900 and parents, grandparents and friends of the pupils performing will be most welcome to come along.

Year 5 children must be returned to school for 1800 and Years 3 and 4 children between 1840 and 1845, coming straight to the Admiral Room.

Balloon Debate - Tuesday 13th December at 1600 in New Hall

Members of Remove will vie to be the last man aloft in a balloon debate on key figures of the Industrial Revolution. Each will prepare a short talk on an important person from this period to try and secure votes to keep them in the balloon! All very welcome to attend.

'Hall Grove's Got Talent' - Thursday 15th December

'Hall Grove's Got Talent' is taking place on Thursday 15th December at 1000 in New Hall. Pupils of all ages are busy preparing music, songs, dance routines, comedy sketches and gymnastic displays! As with previous years, this event is produced by the children, for the children. However, parents are more than welcome to join the audience (or even as part of the show!).

Carol Service - Thursday 15th December

The Carol Service will be taking place on Thursday 15th 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 after the service or collected from school at 1745.

Please note that all Choristers and those in the Senior and Junior Recorder Ensembles are required for the Carol Service, not just those in Years 6 to 8. Children will be transported to the church directly from school.

If there are any parents wishing to enhance the choir during the congregational carols, you are more than welcome to join in, especially if you are a tenor or bass! There will be a short rehearsal from 1500 in the church, along with the brass quintet. Please let Mrs Salmond Smith know via email at lsalmondsmith@hallgrove.co.uk if you are planning to join with the choir so that she can ensure the necessary seating is in place.

Carols in the Courtyard - Friday 16th 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.

End of Term Arrangements - Friday 16th December

Term ends on Friday 16th 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.

Spring Term 2012

Term starts on Monday 9th 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 16th January.

Spring Term 2012 School Calendar

A provisional copy of the calendar will be available on the school website from Friday 16th December. The finalised printed copy will be sent home at the beginning 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.

Sports News

Netball

7th December v Bearwood: 1st VII won

8th December v Lambrook: U9 A won, U9 B won, U8 A won, U8 B lost

Girls' Hockey

7th December v Holme Grange: U11 A drew, U10 lost

Rugby

7th December v Kings House: 1st XV, 2nd XV, Colts A and B, U10 A, B and C lost

8th December v Cranleigh: U9 A drew, U9 B won, U9 C won

Hall Grove Judo Championships 2011

On Saturday we held our very popular annual Judo competition involving over one hundred boys and girls of all sizes from seven local schools and one club side. There was a great atmosphere in New Hall as the competition began on three mat areas simultaneously. The senior teams fought on the main area whilst the girls' individual weight groups and the junior teams fought on the two smaller mat areas. The competition was run as a straight knockout with a repechage (fight-back) for bronze. Hall Grove senior team comprising Amy Adams (Judo Captain), Matthew Burford, Elliot Cook, Fraser Graham and Beatrice Spowers all fought brilliantly and were unlucky not to get into the final, but made short work of their opposition to take the bronze medal position. The junior team of Felix Connolly, Edward Easeman, Alessandro Heaney, Oliver Platts, James Somper, Samuel Wells and Hogan Whiteley also fought well, but narrowly lost their bronze medal fight. Unfortunately Marius Martin and Thomas Morley had to leave early before they got to fight due to other commitments. The girls were fought off in individual weight groups and all five of our Hall Grove girls won medals; Ffion Davies under 25kg Silver, Elea Tulloch under 30kg Gold, Jana van Eeden under 35kg Silver, Amy Adams under 40kg Gold, and Beatrice Spowers under 45kg Gold. Well done everyone who took part and a big thank you to everyone who helped with the organisation.

Mrs Tilley

Food Hampers

We are collecting food products that will go towards hampers being made up for Age Concern. I would welcome donations next week to the kitchen cabin of the following: mince pies, individual Christmas puddings or cakes, Christmas crackers or napkins, any sort of Christmas biscuit, hot chocolate or coffee style of gifts, marmalades and special jams etc... The produce will be taken to the Food Bank in Bracknell where they will design and make up hampers to deliver. I noticed this week that a number of supermarkets have their essential ranges half price – please give only if you can. Many thanks.

Miss Douse

2012 Burns Night - Friday 3rd February 2012

We are hoping to host another evening of Scottish revelry at Hall Grove on Friday 3rd February with a traditional supper and Scottish dancing. All parents welcome. Put the date in your diaries and tell your friends. Details of tickets and cost to follow.

The Hall Grove Ball is Back - Saturday 19th May 2012

Long overdue, it's going to be fun, exciting and full of glamour... Save the date: Saturday 19th May.

Whatever you do, don't miss it!

Watch this space for more information in the New Year.

Woking Symphony Orchestra Family Concert - Saturday 14th January at 1530

The annual Family Concert is taking place on Saturday 14th January from 1530 at the HG Wells, Church Street East, Woking. All tickets are £5 and are available from the Box Office (01483 712710), from wso2011@hotmail.co.uk or on the door. The concert lasts approximately one hour and there is the chance to 'meet the orchestra' and try out different instruments. The programme includes Strauss: Overture Die Fledermaus, Mozart: Oboe Concerto (with soloist Barney Couch) and Britten: The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra. Last year's concert sold out very quickly so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Holiday Childcare

Kirsty Dunnage (sister of ex Hall Grove girls Megan and Gabrielle) is looking for childcare work in the Christmas holidays. She is training to be a Primary School Teacher, is a qualified swimming instructor, is CRB checked, has experience with babies to teenagers and has her own transport. If you are interested or would like to know more please contact her on 07581 618466 or kirstydunnage.x@hotmail.co.uk

English Language Course for Au Pairs - January 2012

Does your au pair wish to improve her English? A unique specially designed course for au pairs is starting in January in Windlesham. The course starts on 10th January and runs for ten weeks (no lessons during half-term) on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 0930-1130. The lessons will be as a group of maximum six, so your au pair will have the chance to make some new friends but still receive lots of individual attention. The teacher is fully qualified and experienced. There is a pre-course assessment to ensure that all au pairs possess a similar level of English. For further information, or to book a place, please call 07941 936254 or

e-mail sara@mortonbusinessenglish.co.uk. Places are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment. Please visit www.mortonbusinessenglish.co.uk for other English Training with Morton, including English for Business.

Add a little sparkle this Christmas...

ANGELIA specialise in fine diamond jewellery for all occasions. Browse through our beautiful collection, there is plenty to choose from diamond rings, necklaces, pendants, bracelets etc. Alternatively, if you are looking for a bespoke piece of jewellery, please get in touch and we will be happy to help you design and create a unique and exciting piece. All jewellery is UK hallmarked and all diamonds are 'conflict' free. For any further advice or information please contact Laura Somerville on 07834 257515 or at laura@angelia.co.uk, or visit www.angelia.co.uk. We are also pleased to offer all Hall Grove parents and staff a further £10 discount at checkout, use code HALLGROVE10.