

Hall Grove School Newsletter



www.hallgrove.co.uk

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After the very cold weather of the last two weeks, the half term break will bring, we trust, some much needed respite. The children have been very good at putting up with a little discomfort without complaint and they have loved being able to play in some snow. We hope we may now see a return to milder conditions.

Scholarship News

Well done to Amy Adams for winning a Sports Scholarship to Pangbourne College, also to Calvin Hung for his Music Exhibition to Wellington (trombone and organ) and to Marcus Norrey for his Music Exhibition to Eton (piano, voice, violin and organ). These are excellent results.

World Book Day – Thursday 1st March

All Pre-Prep children are invited to come into school dressed as their favourite book character to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 1st March. In addition, the children will be encouraged to bring in their favourite stories to share on the day. Today Year 1 came in as pirates – they were great!

Middle School Parent Interview Schedules

The Middle School schedules for the Parent Interviews taking place on Monday 20th February and Tuesday 21st February were sent home today in the half term envelopes.

Casino Royale – Hall Grove School Ball - Saturday 19th May

This exciting event is taking place on Saturday 19th May at Frimley Hall Hotel, Camberley (only ten minutes from the school). A flyer regarding the ball is being sent home today which we would ask you to keep to remind you of the event. Tickets will be going on sale on Friday 2nd March. There is a maximum of 150 tickets available so you will need to be fast to be part of the fun! An email will be sent out (via each year group) in the week after half term to explain how to purchase tickets. However, before then, why not start thinking about putting a table together (tables will be for ten)? For those new to the school, this is the perfect opportunity to be part of a social event and meet other parents.

Groove at the Grove 2012 - Saturday 7th July from 1700

It's the family event of the year so put the date in your diary NOW and await further information on bands and tickets.

Mathletics

Hall Grove has officially become a Mathletics school. Mathletics is used in over 10,000 schools by over 3.5 million students worldwide. It covers all aspects of mathematics, and contains more than 1,000 activities for students aged 5 to 18. The children instantly know if they are on the right track and can improve at their own pace. Animated support on topics is available should the children require additional help whilst at home, making it a valuable revision tool. Included is 'Live Mathletics', which allows students to compete against children from all over the world in real-times games of speed and skill. To date, children playing Live Mathletics have correctly answered over 12 billion questions! Congratulations to 5EM, who have already appeared in both the World Top 50 classes, and the UK Top 50 classes 'Mathletics Hall of Fame'. Mathletics can be accessed by visiting www.mathletics.co.uk or by selecting the link from the school homepage under the 'Pupils' tab.

M:Tech

Last term M:Tech ran Project Hip Hop in our after school club. Children got busy creating catchy melodies and beats, whilst utilising their lyrical skills in writing and recording their own raps. The project will have given them the opportunity to develop their understanding of rhythm and melody in creating their own instrumental parts. It will also have enabled them to explore timbre, familiarise themselves with a keyboard, and learn how to record with a microphone. We are pleased to announce that M:Tech chose Ben Parkinson's (Year 3) 'Doom Days' as Track of the Term from those produced at Hall Grove.

Music Department

Informal Concert

Yesterday's Upper School Informal Concert was a delight to attend; the confidence with which our older children perform is very impressive. Yousuf Mirza and Alex Wessely sang wonderfully, and three of Miss Groom's recorder pupils, Adam Wills, Caitlin Gluckstein and Isabel Norrey, convinced everyone that there is more to the instrument than Three Blind Mice! Many congratulations to all who participated.

Children's Trust Concert - Sunday 26th February

We are delighted that the Concert Band has been invited to perform at this year's Surrey Schools Concert in aid of The Children's Trust at Epsom Playhouse. The concert will take place at 1400 on Sunday 26th February. This will provide an excellent opportunity for our instrumentalists to perform to an outside audience. Further information about The Children's Trust, and the concert, can be found on their website (<http://www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk>). If you wish to attend, tickets are £15 per person and may be purchased through the website. Please could all parents of Concert Band members make sure they have confirmed whether or not their child will be able to attend. A minibus will leave from school in time for the 1100 rehearsal for those requiring transport, and will return to school after the concert. Please let Mrs Salmond Smith know if you wish to take advantage of this (l.salmondsmith@hallgrove.co.uk).

Sports News

Netball

4th February - Bishopsgate Tournament: U11 A won two games, lost one and finished 3rd overall in the tournament.

8th February - Queen Anne's Netball Tournament: 1st VII won two games, lost three. Despite the horrendous playing conditions in the extreme cold the girls tried their best and were placed 7th out of ten schools. Special mention goes to Abigail Rowland who played exceptionally well against girls two years older than her.

Calendar Addition - Saturday 25th February

High 5 Netball Tournament at Eagle House on Saturday 25th February from 1000 to 1200. The team sheet is available to view on the website.

Lacrosse - Saturday 25th February

If your daughter is involved in the lacrosse match, please let Mrs Lomas know if you are able to help with lifts to St. Catherine's, Bramley, as she is looking for a few extra cars to assist with transportation.

Boys' Hockey

4th February - Boys' House Hockey: Year 5 - 1st Eagles, 2nd Kestrels, 3rd Falcons, 4th Hawks; Year 6 - 1st = Eagles/Hawks, 3rd Falcons, 4th Kestrels; Years 7/8 - 1st Eagles, 2nd Hawks, 3rd Falcons, 4th Kestrels

9th February - Surrey and London Hockey Championships: Our squad of nine U10 boys played some really good hockey, winning their first game before losing to eventual winners Dulwich College and St. George's, Weybridge. They then went on to beat Barrow Hills to claim a very creditable 3rd place. Well done to the whole squad.

Cross Country

3rd February - Eagle House Cross Country: All our runners competed well in this huge event that saw fifteen schools participating in the competition for boys and ten in the one for girls. The results were as follows: U13 boys 4th place, U13 girls 5th place, U11 boys 9th place, U11 girls 1st place. Well done to the runners, especially to the U11 girls who won the team event and congratulations to Isabel Norrey who won the Bronze medal.

Calendar Amendments - Wednesday 22nd February

Boys' Hockey v Eagle House:

1400 4th XI at Hall Grove

1400 3rd XI at Wellington College

1430 Colts A, B, C, D at Wellington College

1430 Colts E at Eagle House

1500 1st XI at Wellington College

1530 2nd XI at Hall Grove

IAPS Girls' National Judo Championships

On Saturday 4th February an intrepid team of two senior girls competed in the IAPS Girls' National Judo Championships. This is an individual competition fought in weight groups in two age bands; Band A for 7 – 11 years and Band B for 13 – 18 years. Both girls were in Band B, Beatrice Spowers competed in the Under 45kg group and Amy Adams in the Under 40kg. They fought hard and were rewarded for their efforts and dedication with a gold medal each. This is a great achievement for the girls and, in recognition, Mr Graham invited them to ring the Jubilee Bell in the Monday assembly. Many congratulations to Beatrice and Amy on their success.

Mrs Tilley

Concert for Recorder and Harpsichord - Monday 13th February

If you are seeking a little culture in your half term, our Director of Music, Mrs Salmond Smith, will be performing a recital at Christ Church, Woking, at 1240 on Monday 13th February. She will be accompanied on the harpsichord by David Butler, who the Choristers already know from the recent tour to Manchester. The suggested donation for the concert is £3. Further details can be found at <http://www.concert-diary.com/concert/321552386>.

Instrumentally - Mardi Gras Half Term Workshop

This will be taking place on Thursday 16th and Friday 17th February from 1000 to 1600 for children aged 4 to 11 at Instrumentally's Ascot studio (Studio E4, Ascot Business Park, Lyndhurst Road, Ascot, SL5 9FE). Two fun-filled days of music, dance and musical games on a carnival theme. Activities will include: jazzy beat – learning how to improvise over a simple jazz beat; crafty masks – decorating your own carnival mask; carnival – party to the sound of Mardi Gras; show time – creating a jazzy musical; musical chat – bring your instruments to chat with others. The studio contains five air-conditioned music rooms each with high end digital pianos and a Sonos wireless music system. Drinks and biscuits will be provided throughout the day, but children should bring a packed lunch - please do not include nuts or fizzy drinks. The cost for the workshop is £70 plus VAT. Places can be secured via email at admin@instrumentally.co.uk or by calling on 01344 627300.

Coming Soon to Hall Grove - Rock School!

We will be hosting an exciting workshop course for aspiring pop musicians over the Easter holidays in the week of 16th April. The course will be run by Instrumentally of Ascot. More details after half term.

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Ladies' Lunch at Caldesi in Campagna - Tuesday 6th March

The charismatic celebrity chef Giancarlo Caldesi is very kindly hosting his second Ladies Luncheon at his restaurant Caldesi In Campagna, Bray in support of Sebastian's Action Trust. Come and join in the fun and sample his delicious food. Bring a group of your friends. Please book your table by calling Jess Rozario at Sebastian's Action Trust on 01344 622500.

Skydive for The Children's Trust - Sunday 18th March

Raise money for The Children's Trust if you are brave enough! The Children's Trust are looking for daredevils to jump 12,000ft out of the sky on Sunday 18th March at Hinton Airfield Brackley, near Oxford. Experience the ultimate adrenaline rush of leaving an aircraft at 12,000ft and freefalling for 30 seconds at 120mph until your parachute opens and you drift back down to earth. Please visit www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk/brackley or contact Julia Hart (mother of Jamie in Year 5) on 01252 375288 or at jhart@thechildrenstrust.org.uk for further information.

Lost Dog

Lyla Smith (1KH) lost her dog Polly on Tuesday 7th February from her garden in Sunningdale. Polly is a two-year-old tan coloured Chihuahua x Jack Russell. Please contact Jade on 07970 287564 if you find a stray dog matching her description. There is a reward for her safe return.

