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A group of boys and girls from Years 6, 7 and 8 had a fascinating tour of the Olympic Park today and formed a very positive impression of the remarkable way this depressed and run-down area of London has been regenerated by the Olympic project. The architecture and landscaping is truly inspirational. We are now beginning to make plans for a week of special Olympic celebrations of our own towards the end of next term. Photographs are available to view on the website.

Scholarship News

Congratulations to Mark Warnants who has been offered an academic award at Leighton Park School, and to Jamie Bohling who won an all-rounders award at Bradfield. We await more results next week.

South African Cricket Tour

Many congratulations to the fifteen boys who went on the biennial cricket tour to South Africa and represented the school so well. On top of the six matches played, the squad enjoyed seeing some of the sights. Special highlights were the spectacular views of Cape Town and the surrounding landscape from the top of Table Mountain and the fascinating tour of Robben Island with the recent history of South Africa explored. Many friends were made through each of the fixtures and the boys particularly enjoyed staying with their contemporaries from Wynberg Boys' Junior School and Llandudno Primary, both of whom have now played and hosted us on each of the four tours. The squad all enjoyed individual success on the pitch with some solid wicket keeping in trying conditions, all fourteen bowlers taking at least one wicket and thirteen out of fifteen children enjoying at least one innings in double figures. With the emphasis firmly on giving everyone an equal opportunity, we are delighted with the preparation for the season ahead.

Science Day at Royal Holloway - Saturday 25th February

Mr Adams would like to draw your attention to a Science Day being held at the Royal Holloway College this weekend. It will comprise lots of exciting activities, demonstrations and interactive displays. It is advertised as a free family event and has come strongly recommended. It runs from 1000 to 1600 on Saturday.

Hall Grove Poetry Competition 2012

The final for our poetry competition this year will be held on Tuesday 27th March at 1000 in New Hall. Over the next few weeks we encourage all children from Years 3 - 8 to learn a poem which they will perform in one of their lessons before their class/set. The very best from each group will go forward to the final. Children may choose from their own year group list OR from any of the more senior lists. Children will receive the relevant year group poems on Monday, and the full list and text of all the poems, together with more information, is also on our website.

World Book Day - Thursday 1st March

We would like to remind you that 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 are encouraged to bring in their favourite stories to share on the day.

Reading Books

Please could parents check to see if there are any of the school's Barrington Stoke reading books at home and in school bags. What was once a large supply has dwindled and they are expensive to replace. Please return any books found to your child's form teacher or the School Office. Many thanks.

Music Department

Children's Trust Concert - Sunday 26th February

Please be reminded that the Concert Band will be playing at Epsom Playhouse this Sunday. The concert begins at 1400, and tickets may be purchased online (http://www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk/surreysc).

Choral Evensong - Saturday 3rd March

The Choristers will be singing Choral Evensong on Saturday 3rd March at Eton College Chapel. The service begins at 1615, so do please come along to support our choristers as they sing in this most magnificent setting. The setting of the canticles will be Stanford in G, with Marcus Norrey singing the solo treble part. Our bass soloist will be ex-Hall Grove pupil Jeremy Quartermain who is currently Head of Sixth Form at Gresham's. The additional lower voices will be made up of staff, friends and relatives. This is an excellent opportunity for children who may wish to join Choristers, and their parents, to come and see more of what it involves.

Musical Instruments

Please remind your child to make sure that their instruments are stored neatly and safely when at school. There is plenty of storage provided, so there should be no need for souzaphones to be in strange places. Instruments that are too large for the shelves should be carefully stored at the side of the fover outside the Clanwilliam Room – not in the middle of the floor!

Music Competition

With so many pupils practising extra hard for the upcoming Music Competition, it is certain to be a very musical week. The schedule will be published at the start of next week, so please make sure you check the school website or the noticeboard under the archway for each individual class or category. There will be a concert for our winning instrumentalists to showcase their talent on Thursday 15th March at 1900. We are extremely fortunate to have four excellent judges: Susie Henwood, Head of Strings, Wellington College; Tansy Castledine, Director of Music, St. George's College, Weybridge; Lauren Crowther, Director of Music, Lord Wandsworth College; Peter White, Director of Music, RGS Guildford.

Sports News

Netball

22nd February v Bishopsgate: 1st VII won, U10 A lost

Girls' Hockey

22nd February v St. Andrew's: U11 A drew 23rd February v St. Andrew's: U9 won, U8 drew

Girls' Lacrosse Weekend Fixture - Saturday 25th February

Lacrosse v St. Catherine's Bramley: 1st XI to meet at Hall Grove at 0815 for an away fixture starting at 0930

IAPS Regional Netball Tournament - Thursday 1st March

The U11 netball squad are representing Hall Grove on Thursday 1st March at the Regional IAPS Netball Tournament in High Wycombe (Kingsmead Netball Centre, HP11 1JB). Mrs Maxfield and Mrs Tilley will be taking the girls by school minibus and would like them to meet at Hall Grove no later than 0730; the team has to be at High Wycombe by 0930. We would welcome supporters. The competition is likely to be very fierce with forty-eight schools battling for only eight places at the National Finals which will take place at Roedean, Brighton on Saturday 3rd March.

Forthcoming Netball Tournament Information

Saturday 26th February: Eagle House High Five Tournament - U8 girls to meet Mrs Maxfield at Eagle House promptly at 0900 Wednesday 29th February: U11 A and B teams will be competing in the Hall Grove Invitational U11 Tournament from 1400 to 1600

Thursday 1st March: U11 A girls to meet Mrs Maxfield at Hall Grove at 0730 (for further information please see above)

Saturday 3rd March: U11 National Finals at Roedean, Roedean Way, Brighton, BN2 5RQ. If successful on Thursday, the CU11 A girls are to meet at Hall Grove at 0730

Boy's Hockey

22nd February v Eagle House: 1st XI lost, 2nd XI lost, 3rd XI lost, 4th XI won, Colts A won, Colts B won, Colts C won, Colts D won, Colts E won

23rd February v Eagle House: U9 A won, U9 B drew, U9 C drew, U9 D won

Cross Country

On Thursday 23rd February the U13 and U11 boys' teams competed in the Ludgrove Relays. The U13s finished 10th out of sixteen and the U11 team came 9th.

Boys' Hockey Weekend Fixtures - Saturday 25th February

Boys' Hockey v Edgeborough: 1st XI to meet at Hall Grove at 0930 for a home match starting at 0930. 3rd XI to meet at Hall Grove at 1020 for a home match starting at 1030. U10 A and B to meet at Hall Grove at 0820 for away matches starting at 0930. Colts A and B to meet at Hall Grove at 0920 for away matches starting at 1030.

Year 2 Coffee Morning for Sports Relief

Thank you to all of the Year 2 mothers who were able to give up their time, money and diets to support the Coffee Morning for Sport Relief. We managed to raise £100 amongst ourselves and this amount has been matched by the corporate employer of one of the mothers, making a total of £200 donated to Sport Relief.

Mrs Bray

Big Yellow Friday - Friday 2nd March

Please come and join our Big Yellow Friday Coffee Morning in the pavilion on Friday 2nd March in support of the Children's Liver Disease Foundation. Coffee, tea and yummy cakes will be available from 0830 until 1100. The CLDF is a charity very close to my heart – as many of you know, Grace, my daughter in Year 4 was born with liver disease and, at two years old, had a liver transplant. Recently she had a further complication that put her back in hospital for a couple of months. Having received so much support from the CLDF, I have decided that I too would like to make a difference and hope you will help me support the charity on Friday 2nd March. Many thanks.

Mrs Millar

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For Sale

Mini Cooper S, 2007 (56), 26,500 miles, John Cooper works body kit, black with white roof and bonnet stripes, red leather interior, Chili Pack, sports suspension, bluetooth (Parrot) kit, panoramic glass sunroof, darkened rear windows, 17" alloy wheels, MOT to Feb 2013, full service history. £,9,000 ono. If interested, please telephone 01276 472387.

Walking with a Twist

Walking with a Twist on Mondays and Wednesdays at 0900 starting on Monday 27th February. At various locations - The Look Out, Virginia Water, Windlesham etc. Please join our walks, everyone welcome. £3 per session or £5 for both days. For details call Frin Brum on 07544 465974 or 01344 890572.

