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1st June 2012 Edition No: 406

This has been another busy week. Our Boarding Inspection team was clearly most impressed with all it saw, and we are hopeful that when the written report comes in a few weeks it will show that the school continues to meet the demanding standard required of boarding schools. Our cricket, tennis and rounders matches have gone well, and yesterday we had a most successful Open Morning. At the end of the week we enjoyed a magnificent Jubilee picnic, complete with a delicious spread of food, a brass band, flags, bunting, gas-filled balloons and a newly commissioned Jubilee Fountain.

We wish all our families a very enjoyable holiday weekend and a chance to celebrate this historic Diamond Jubilee. God save the Queen!

Jubilee Medals

Every child has been presented with a specially minted commemorative medal to mark the Queen's Jubilee. Look after them - they will be very special in years to come.

School Prospectus

A copy of our most recent School Prospectus has been sent home with the children today. Whilst the text is largely unaltered, there are a number of new photographs.

Olympic Visit

Well done to all the children who took part in the sponsored circuit training as part of our Olympic athlete visit. All the children worked incredibly hard to complete the four exercises under the supervision of Lee Shimkin, our visiting Olympic judo player. Our thanks to Lee for his motivational talk to the children and we wish him every success in the future. The children now have until 15th June to return their sponsor forms together with the money they have raised, which will go towards helping up and coming Olympic sports men and women as well as charities supported by the school.

Music Department

Our thriving Music Department is going to be even busier than usual after we return from the half term break.

On Wednesday 13th June, the Choristers will be singing Evensong in St. George's Chapel. You are warmly invited to attend Evensong in this most exceptional setting. The service begins promptly at 1715, so please queue at the King Henry VIII gate in good time (1700 at the very latest), ready to be ushered through to the chapel before the service begins. Please be aware that photography is strictly forbidden inside the chapel. Those choristers singing at St. George's will be rehearsing Monday and Wednesday only during exam week. The list of those involved is on the noticeboard by the archway.

The Middle School Informal Lunchtime Concert will be held at 1245 on Thursday 14th June, and the Upper School Concert is the following Thursday, 21st June. If your child has instrumental lessons outside school and their teacher thinks they are ready to perform, please let Mrs Salmond Smith know by email (l.salmondsmith@hallgrove.co.uk) as soon as possible to ensure a slot for them to play.

Chaconne Brass are spending the day at Hall Grove on Friday 15th June. They will be working with all our brass players and performing a joint concert with them at 1630 in New Hall. Do please come along to support our musicians as they work with this most excellent ensemble (http://www.chaconne.co.uk).

Farnham Youth Choir, described by a member of the famous King's Singers as "probably the finest choir of its type in the country today" is auditioning for singers aged between 11 and 14 on Saturday 30th June. For further details, please visit www.fyc.org.uk or see the Music Department noticeboard by the archway.

There is a National Youth Music Theatre Workshop from 6th to 8th August. Directed by Jeremy James Taylor OBE, the NYMT is running a three day non-residential workshop at Kingston College this Summer for 11 to 15 year olds. The course encompasses all aspects of Musical Theatre, so if your child is a budding singer, choreographer or stage builder please email Mrs Salmond Smith for further details.

Sports News

Tennis

29th May v Eagle House: U12 won, U11 won

It was wonderful to see our U12 and U11 squads in full swing for the tennis fixture against Eagle House on Tuesday evening. Both Hall Grove teams came away victorious, wining seven out of their nine matches. They enjoyed a number of close games and their conduct and approach was professional and in the best of spirits.

30th May v St. Andrew's: 1st IX lost, U11 won, U10 won

31st May v Lambrook: U9 A and B lost

Cricket

26th May v St. John's Beaumont: 1st XI won, 2nd XI won, 3rd XI won, U10 B lost

30th May v Woodcote: 1st XI won, 2nd XI won, Colts A won, Colts B won, Colts C won, U10 C lost

31st May v St. Andrew's: U9 A won, U9 B won, U9 C won

Athletics v Woodcote - Thursday 31st May

This year, Woodcote won the annual match between the two schools. There were some encouraging performances in the hurdles and the middle distance events, most notably Felix Stewart (Year 6) and Aaron Goss (Year 8), both in the 800m. Thomas Morley must also get a mention for his efforts in the 100m, hurdles and long jump.

Calendar Amendments

Thursday 14th June: Rounders v Hoe Bridge will now start at 1400 and not 1430 as stated in the calendar.

Saturday 16th June: U11 Doubles Tennis v St. George's has been cancelled. Saturday 16th June: Boys' House Cricket Matches. Years 5, 7 and 8 starting at 0900. Year 6 starting at 1300.

Thursday 21st June: An U8 A rounders match has been added to the existing U8 B fixture against Edgeborough. Both matches are away and will start at 1415.

IAPS National Judo Congress

On Saturday 26th May a small team of two boys, Hogan Whiteley and Alessandro Heaney (both Year 5), entered the IAPS National Judo Congress and Team Event at High Wycombe Judo Centre. What a fantastic day they had winning a gold each and securing the top team trophy for Hall Grove! Both boys displayed exceptional skill for their age group and were both complimented on their efforts. Very well done to Hogan and Alessandro.

The Knight Frank Tennis Tournament - Sunday 17th June at Charters School

We have a number of teams entered in the tournament this year and we remind the parents of those pupils selected that this is a team event. If a player fails to arrive on the day, their team of four will not be permitted to progress within the competition. We wish to avoid any disappointment. Registration is 0930 to 1000 and pupils should be dropped off and collected directly from Charters School.

Chelsea FC Summer Camp

Please find attached information regarding the Chelsea FC Summer Camp being run at Hall Grove during the Summer holidays for children from Reception to Year 7.

Ski Trip 2013 - 2nd to 8th January

The response has been excellent for January's ski trip to Claviere, Italy. There is still some space available. Please contact Mr Tullett (i.tullett@hallgrove.co.uk) if you require further details or would like to reserve a place. The cost of the trip is £,930, inclusive of all skiing costs.

Pony Grove - Tetrathlon

On Saturday, Pony Grove held its annual Tetrathlon with the children running approximately 1000m, biking approximately 1500m, shooting at targets with ten pellets and riding over as many jumps as possible in two minutes. The competition was split into Juniors and Seniors. Everyone competed brilliantly and there were some unexpected great first time shots, especially among the juniors with Milly Padfield and Helen Vrancken winning the shooting with a fabulous 78 score.

The results overall were as follows:

Seniors - 1st place Saxon Walker, 2nd place Oliver Hadden-Wight, 3rd place Jamie Grant, 4th place Megan Vandenberg, 5th place Harry Hadden-Wight

Juniors - 1st place Caitlin Pawinski, 2nd place Sarah Vandenberg, 3rd place Antonia Gathy and Rosie Millar, 5th place Helen Vrancken and 6th place Scarlett Creasey

'Think Like A Pony' Demonstration

On Monday 4th June Pony Grove will be hosting a demonstration with Lynn Henry, Founder and Author of 'Think Like a Pony' from 1730 to 2000. She is a very inspirational and fascinating lady and it will be interesting for anyone remotely interested in horses or ponies, whatever your level of ability. Tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for children. Please do come along and join us. We will have a BBQ and there will be light refreshments.

Groove at the Grove - Saturday 7th July

Buy your tickets online now (www.grooveatthegrove.co.uk). Take advantage of the early bird offer - it doesn't last much longer!

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Spartan Race

Jonathan Blackburn (father of Freddie in Reception) is competing in a Spartan race on 29th July in aid of Leukaemia and Lymphoma research. The race is a 5k obstacle race designed to test resilience, strength and stamina. Mr Blackburn would love to raise as much money as possible for this charity and any donations would be gratefully received. Please see his sponsorship page (http://www.justgiving.com/Jonathan-Blackburn).

Charity Collection for The Children's Trust - Monday 18th June

After such a marvellous response at Christmas, another collection day for The Children's Trust charity shops has been organised for Monday 18th June. Bags will be distributed after half term and additional bags will be available from the School Office. Please bring all unwanted items, clothes, shoes, toys and bric-a-brac to Leo's Workshop (situated opposite the Uniform Shop) between 0800 and 1600 on the 18th. For further information please contact Julia Hart on 07814 493908 or visit The Children's Trust website (www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk).

Silk Flower Summer Clearance Sale

Going to Pot Silk Flowers are having a huge sale from Thursday 14th to Saturday 16th June from 1000 to 1600. A vast collection of superior silk, artificial flowers and plants, single stems to larger items with up to 70% off. French and Italian giftware and a large selection of modern and traditional planters. Please contact susie@goingtopot.com for more information. There will be plenty of parking and everyone is welcome. Tea and cakes will be available. The Little Dower House, Crimp Hill, Old Windsor, Berkshire SL4 2HL (http://tinyurl.com/cgrxy7n).

Nanny/Au Pair Wanted

Due to a three month project abroad, we are looking for a confident, fun and experienced live in Nanny/Au Pair from September to early December 2012 (must be a driver and non-smoker). We have two children aged eight and six, and we are looking for someone to drop off and collect from school and clubs, Monday, Tuesday and Fridays, and also help out in the half term break. This person needs to be prepared to stay with them overnight on their own at certain times during the period, yet to be confirmed. Job will be based in Sunningdale. If interested, please contact Fiona Wright on 07801 141494.

