

Hall Grove School Newsletter



www.hallgrove.co.uk

15th June 2012

Edition No: 407

The Common Entrance exams are behind us, and the results will come through next week. The boys and girls in Year 8 have four weeks now to enjoy some additional freedom and responsibility. Well done to all of them for working hard and conducting themselves sensibly.

Jubilee Balloons

One of the highlights of our recent Jubilee celebrations was the release of 360 gas-filled balloons, one for each child in the school, with an individually written postcard. To our delight 31 have been returned, many with nice letters attached, tracing a flight path south through Woking, over the North Downs, the Ashdown Forest, the South Downs and even across the Channel to Picardie! Congratulations to Emily Myers (Year 3) whose balloon travelled furthest and was found in Le Hamel; the others who made it into France were Olivia Simmons (Year 4), Rhett Wooldridge (Year 3) and Oscar McKittrick (Year 8). A plotted route of the balloons and postcards found can be viewed on the school website.

Staff Changes for September 2012

There are a small number of teaching changes in the Upper School next year:

Sharon Juden: Mrs Juden (part-time French) has decided to leave Hall Grove at the end of this term and will hand over her teaching to her colleagues Mrs Cooper and Mrs Duggan-Hill. After a difficult year which has included a long spell of absence for illness, we wish Mrs Juden all possible health and happiness for the future. She has been at Hall Grove for nine years and we will miss her very much indeed.

Katie Lewis: Mrs Lewis has decided not to return to her post of Head of Girls' Games at the end of her maternity leave. The position will be filled by Mrs Lomas who has been providing cover in the department over the last year. We will continue to keep in close contact with Mrs Lewis and we hope to see her return in a part-time capacity in the future. We send her and her daughter Annabel our very best wishes.

James Heanley: Mr Heanley has decided to widen his teaching experience by taking up a post at Tower House School in London this September, where he has been appointed Head of Geography. As a Hall Grove Old Boy who returned here four years ago for his first full-time teaching job, this is the right time for such a move and we fully support his plans to take his career forward. We wish him every success for the future.

Henry Toulson: Mr Toulson joined us this term to cover the absence of Mr Thorne. We are delighted that he is staying on and that his post (English, Humanities and Games) becomes permanent.

Louise Salmond Smith: Mrs Salmond Smith (Head of Music) will teach full-time from September and, as well as running the Music Department, she will teach some Upper School English and play a leading part in the Year 6 tutor team.

In the Pre-Prep, Catherine Parsons (Reception Classroom Assistant) leaves us in order to explore different career options and Kate Black, who currently works in Reception on Fridays, will be taking on the Classroom Assistant rôle full-time. We wish Miss Parsons well and thank her for all she has given to Hall Grove over the last two years.

The most significant change for next term is that Leo Poppa (School Carpenter and Handyman) will be retiring and moving to his native Italy. Over the many years he has been at Hall Grove, Mr Poppa has looked after our buildings and provided invaluable support in countless ways. We shall mark his unique contribution to Hall Grove at a special event on Tuesday 10th July, our Italian Day. Watch this space!

Common Entrance Coaching

On Monday evenings, Mr N Dawson (formerly Headmaster of Sunningdale School) gives short individual lessons to Upper School boys and girls in preparation for CE. Over the years he has successfully prepared countless pupils for a variety of senior schools. He now has spaces for one or two additional candidates so if you would like your child to attend a regular lesson please let the School Office know by email (office@hallgrove.co.uk) and we will include them on the rota. Supper can be booked through the Boarding House.

Hall Grove at Westminster

Year 8 went up to London for a guided tour around the Houses of Parliament just before half-term, courtesy of our MP, the Rt Hon Michael Gove. It was a fantastic experience to stand before the famous green benches, see what happens behind the Speaker's Chair and go through a division lobby. We also walked up Whitehall, looking splendid with all the flags, and looked down Downing Street. All in all it was a great trip. Later in the term we will be visiting London Docklands and, thanks to parent Tom Millar, we will be visiting the dealing floors at Barclays Capital. A new generation of city slickers is on its way!

Greek Day for Years 3 to 5 - Friday 22nd June

There will be a Greek Day for Years 3, 4 and 5 on Friday 22nd June and the children have been asked to come to school dressed as Greeks. We would like the children to bring an empty shoe box/cereal packet and any cardboard tubes that you might have, if possible, so that they can design and make Greek temples.

Cake Sale - Friday 22nd June

Jamie Hart and some helpers in 5ST will be holding a cake sale on Friday 22nd June in aid of The Children's Trust and would like to ask all year groups for donations of cakes. Please could children bring cakes in on Thursday or Friday morning and hand them in to the Year 5 form teachers. Cakes will be sold at breaktime on Friday to the school. Please name any containers you would like returned.

1AE Assembly - Wednesday 27th June

The children in 1AE would like to invite their parents to their Class Assembly on Wednesday 27th June. If you are able to attend, please be in New Hall by 0900. We look forward to seeing you there.

TASC - Royal Ascot Week

As it is Royal Ascot next week, please remember to book any TASC requirements as it is likely to be very busy.

Breakfast Club and Early Morning Supervision

In the interests of safety we ask that no child should arrive at school before 0730 as Breakfast Club and early morning supervision does not start until that time. To book for Breakfast Club please email Mrs Tilley (l.tilley@hallgrove.co.uk) or Mrs Bath (office@hallgrove.co.uk). The school telephone is not manned until 0800 so, in the event of needing emergency early morning supervision, please contact Mrs Tilley on 07855 395749.

Music Department

The Choristers sang Evensong at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, on Wednesday. We rehearsed in the Dungeon before the service, which in itself was an experience! We were joined by a variety of adult singers, the home-grown ones being Mr Waltho, Mrs Graham, Mrs Vernon-Smith, Mrs Jackson (Matron), Mr Goodwin and our bass soloist, Mr Heffer along with Mrs Condron, Mrs Gluckstein and Mr Rees. Our ranks were boosted by a variety of other singers, including a member of Only Men Aloud! The children were superbly behaved. Particularly worthy of note is Marcus Norrey for his exceptional solo, and also the Year 7s, Marcus Dickson, Harry Francis, William Silverthorne, Edward Butler and Adam Wills, for setting such a fine musical example to the younger children. Many thanks to parents and friends for coming along to support – it was extremely rewarding for the children to sing to a 'packed house'.

The Middle School Lunchtime Concert on Thursday was a great success with many lovely performances. The Upper School's concert is this Thursday at 1245 in New Hall, so please do come and support. You will receive a letter if your child has been invited to participate, or you may check the Music Department noticeboard.

The workshop by Chaconne Brass today has also been a great success. Children have been fully engaged in their music-making, and have learnt a bit more about what it's like to be a professional musician.

Golf News - The Stowe Putter

This famous prep school competition is open to boys and girls who have reached a good competitive standard of golf. There are separate competitions for U13, U12 and U11 age groups. It takes place in the magnificent grounds of Stowe School on Thursday 23rd August; full details are available on the Stowe School website.

Sports News

Tennis

Congratulations to the U13 boys' squad who enjoyed a competitive tennis fixture against Caldicott on Thursday. They faced some good opposition and battled hard to win five out of six matches to produce another convincing victory.

Rounders

13th June v Holme Grange: 1st IX won

13th June v Coworth-Flexlands: U11 won, U10 won

Cricket

13th June v Edgeborough: 1st XI won, 2nd XI won, 3rd won, Colts B won, U10 A won, U10 B won

14th June v Hoe Bridge (Surrey Cup Quarter Final): 1st XI lost

14th June v Edgeborough: U9 A won, U9 B won

14th June v Aldro: U8 A, B and C lost

Weekend Tournaments - Sunday 17th June

Cricket: Wellington U11 6-a-side Tournament

Tennis: Knight Frank Tennis Tournament at Charters School

Team Photographs - Thursday 21st June

Please ensure children in Years 3 - 8 have their Summer sports kits in school on Thursday 21st June for their team photographs.

Years 3 - 8 Individual Athletics Finals - Saturday 23rd June

The top eight athletes in each year group have been selected to compete in the Individual Athletic Finals taking place on Saturday 23rd June between 1000 and 1300. The names of those selected have been posted on the Sports Team noticeboard.

The Year 6 girls' competition will be run at a later date yet to be confirmed.

Sports Day - Saturday 30th June

Parents are reminded that Sports Day is on Saturday 30th June. All the children are expected to attend and their families are invited to come and support. The Pre-Prep races will run before lunch. The Middle and Upper School have races both in the morning and in the afternoon. Families are encouraged to picnic in the grounds and there will be various lunchtime displays.

Pre-Season Football and Rugby Training

Pre-season football and rugby training information was sent out before half term (copies of both are attached). Please let Mr Tomlinson or Mr Joll know if you would like further information or an application form. It would be great to see as many children as possible participating in the pre-season training in preparation for the new seasons.

Girls' Pre-Season Training

A letter was sent out a few weeks ago regarding girls' pre-season training for netball, hockey and lacrosse taking place on Monday 3rd September. If your daughter is in Years 2 to 7 and is interested in attending, please return the form to Mrs Lomas or contact her directly at c.lomas@hallgrove.co.uk for more details.

Sailing News

Over the Jubilee Weekend Piers Nicholls (Year 6) competed in the Sekonda RS Feva National Championships hosted by the Royal Torbay Yacht Club. Piers and his helm, Jamie Smith, raced under the burgee of their home club Hayling Island Sailing Club. They raced in a fleet of 105 boats and their results on the first day of racing secured their position in the Gold fleet when the fleet was split into Gold and Silver. They won both races on the second day holding their nerve in winds which were fickle and shifty and made conditions tricky. They went on to win the trophy for the U13s and were runners up for the Junior prize (U14s) in the Gold fleet. They finished 15th overall racing against seniors in their fleet. We wish them luck in the World Championships taking place in July.

Hall Grove Greensomes Golf Competition - Saturday 23rd June

Open to every pupil and their adult golf partner. You are invited to take part in this term's Golf Competition which will be held in a 'Greensomes' format, i.e. teams of two made up of a child and an adult. This is a lovely opportunity for children to play around the upgraded nine hole course in a fun competition with an adult partner of their choice. The Competition will take place on the afternoon of Saturday 23rd June (note that golf lessons will take place as normal in the morning). There will be four trophy categories: Reception - Year 1; Years 2 - 3; Years 4 - 5 and Years 6 - 8. The entry fee per team is £15. The fee is payable on the day and includes a goody bag per team and hot/cold drinks in the Pavilion. Please complete the booking form attached with this newsletter and return it by next Monday (18th June). Please contact Caroline Grant with any queries by email at caroline.windsor@tfigroup.com or by telephone on 01276 858348 or 07770 755584.

Friends of Hall Grove

Thank you to all those who were able to attend the meeting last night. The following points were discussed and reviewed:

- Good feedback and review regarding the Curry Night which was held in February and the Ball in May.
- Secondhand uniform sale to take place on Monday 9th July. Mrs Tilley has kindly offered to co-ordinate this and is looking for volunteers to help on the day. Please contact her by email (l.tilley@hallgrove.co.uk).
- Meirion Shaw provided an update regarding Groove at the Grove, please see notice below.
- Looking ahead to the Autumn Term, an idea for a possible Wine Tasting Evening towards the beginning of October was put forward and was well received. If you have any thoughts, ideas or contacts with regards to co-ordinating, arranging or helping with this event, please express your interest by emailing Mrs Leech at p.leech@hallgrove.co.uk so an initial think tank may take place and a committee formed before the Summer holiday. This should prove to be a great evening allowing both new and existing parents to get together near the start of the new academic year.

Groove at the Grove - Saturday 7th July

Buy your tickets this week! The early bird special ends next Friday so time is running out to get your £5 discount off adult tickets. You can buy them online at www.grooveatthegrove.co.uk or fill in the application form attached and drop it into the School Office together with a cheque or cash. It's a brilliant evening for the whole family and everyone is welcome. We are delighted to announce that our host on Saturday 7th July is one of Eagle Radio's top DJs with dance competitions for the children and a disco to end the evening - so put on your dancing shoes (or wellies) and come join the fun. Any questions please email grooveatthegrove@hotmail.co.uk or call 07769 655591.

Newsletter Attachments

The following documents are attached to this week's newsletter:

- Pre-Season Football Training
- Pre-Season Rugby Training
- Think-A-Link Summer Camp
- Groove at the Grove 2012
- Hall Grove Greensomes Golf Tournament

Latest Adobe Acrobat Reader - www.adobe.com/downloads/

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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 have been distributed this week and additional bags are 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 Monday. For further information please contact Julia Hart on 07814 493908 or visit The Children's Trust website (www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk).

Sunningdale Scouts Summer Ball - Saturday 30th June

You are invited to the Sunningdale Scouts Summer Ball on Saturday 30th June at the Berystede Hotel, Ascot. Tickets are £45 per person which include dinner and dancing. There will be a charity auction with fantastic prizes such as a Mini convertible for the weekend, lunch for two at Coworth Park, Disneyland Paris tickets and much more. For tickets please go to www.sunningdalescouts.org.uk or call Pablo on 01344 297074.

Fun Run - Sunday 8th July

The Children's Trust have organised a Fun Run on Sunday 8th July at 1500 at Brentmoor Heath, West End (opposite the Hare and Hounds): 2k, 5k or 10k - all off road. All runners will receive a medal, 'goodie' bag and race number. Adult - £10; child - £5; family entry £25. Have fun and get fit whilst raising money for The Children's Trust. For more information and to sign up online, please visit thechildrenstrust.org.uk/funrun or contact Julia Hart at jhart@thechildrenstrust.org.uk or on 01252 375288.

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 07769 641868.

