

Hall Grove School Newsletter



www.hallgrove.co.uk

6th July 2012

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As we approach the closing stages of this academic year we can look back with pride on many achievements from the last three terms. Year 8 have returned from Devon having had an action-packed week of activities at Battisborough, and they will now have just three days to prepare for the end of term. It is always sad to say farewells to staff and friends - we trust they will leave with many happy memories.

Italian Day - Tuesday 10th July

We kick the day off with a special Italian themed Assembly starting at 0900. After the Assembly there will be some short talks and musical performances. Whilst the gathering is intended primarily for the children, parents may stand at the back of New Hall or on the gallery. Children can wear a green, white or red t-shirt for the day with white PE shorts. (Year 8 will need their clean sports kit for the afternoon's sport). Our caterers are preparing a special Italian lunch for the children. A warm, sunny day would be nice!

Prize Giving - Wednesday 11th July

Parents are welcome to attend Prize Giving on Wednesday at 1000 in New Hall. The prizes will be presented by Mrs Jill Goss. Parking will be available on the fields. The Prize List has been posted on the school website and a paper copy is pinned up on the noticeboard under the arch.

Olympic Sports Day

We have had some very positive reactions to our special Sports Day programme. It was a lovely occasion with lots of activity and the school looked in great shape - we even had some sunshine! Congratulations to all those who worked so hard to make the day such a success, and to the pupils for their enthusiastic participation.

Year 3 Garden Judging

To complete a wonderful Sports Day, the Year 3 gardens were judged by Mr Poppa. The children all deserved a prize for their fantastic effort and their delightful Diamond Jubilee themed gardens. Prizes were awarded to Jubilee Park, Flower Power and Diamond Destiny. Diamond Garden received a prize for its exceptional team-work. Year 3 parents are welcome to collect their plants from the gardens at their convenience.

Pre-Prep Dance Celebration

Congratulations to all Pre-Prep children for putting on a thrilling dance display on Wednesday evening. Parents were treated to everything from Superheroes to an Ugly Bug Ball and we commend pupils for their effort and enthusiasm; they performed brilliantly! Thank you to the Pre-Prep teachers and assistants for their hard work behind the scenes to ensure that pupils were well prepared and in costume. A special thank you goes to Miss Stein and Mrs Leech who worked tirelessly to choreograph, arrange and support the event, making it such a success.

Mr Slape

Website Videos

Fat Sam's Grand Slam and the Pre-Prep Summer Dance Celebration performances are now available to view on the school website under the 'News' section.

After School Clubs and TASC

Please note that the final clubs of this term are today. TASC will operate as usual until Tuesday 10th July, inclusive. Please remember to book any TASC requirements as it is likely to be busy.

Year 8 Trip to Docklands - Monday 9th July

The Year 8 trip to Docklands on Monday will be led by Mr Graham. Year 8 will be leaving after assembly and will be back before the end of the school day. Packed lunches will be provided by the school. This is a routine trip with no specific hazards. If your child is unable to go, please let the School Office know as soon as possible (office@hallgrove.co.uk).

Summer Concert - Monday 9th July

The Summer Concert is taking place on Monday, starting at 1900. It promises to be a memorable evening, so please do come along if you are able. The concert should last a little over an hour. Performers in Years 6, 7 and 8 will be signed in for supper and remain at school after lessons. All participating Middle School children must be returned to school and meet in the Admiral Room by 1830 wearing full school uniform with ties, but no blazers. Girls should wear their Summer dresses.

Year 8 Leavers' Evening - Tuesday 10th July

All of the boys and girls of Year 8 and their parents have been invited to the Leavers' Party on Tuesday. The format is as follows: Evensong Service at 1630 (all of Years 6, 7 and 8 to attend, parents of leavers especially encouraged to come, but all other parents are welcome too). The Year 8 boys and girls will then get ready for a sporting evening (cricket and tennis/rounders) against their parents after which there will be drinks, a barbecue (Italian, of course!) and some informal entertainment. A letter for Year 8 parents has already been sent out via email. We hope you can all come - it promises to be a great evening.

Music Department

Choristers' Tour to Spain

As many of you will have heard from first-hand sources, the Choristers' trip to Costa Brava was a huge success. Four scheduled concerts, plus one impromptu performance, meant that many hundreds of audience members heard the high standard of singing that our Choristers are currently enjoying.

Our first concert was at Montserrat but, in the absence of time to rehearse in situ beforehand, we decided to use a convenient side street. Within minutes, tourists were gathered round taking photos and listening to the singing. Shortly afterwards, we headed across to the Basilica where we sang three unaccompanied songs, 'Senwa Dedende', 'Gloria in Excelsis' and 'Viva la Musica'. After lunch, we ascended the mountain on a funicular railway to take in the giddy view from the top. Later that evening we performed in the local church of our host town, Tossa de Mar, which had a spectacular acoustic. The Senior Recorder Ensemble had the opportunity to play and were very impressive.

The following day was spent in Barcelona. After visiting the astonishing Sagrada Familia, we explored the Gothic Quarter and Cathedral Precincts. Upon arriving at Barcelona Cathedral, we were startled to discover that the promised organ was not available to us for the concert. Fortunately, Mrs Salmond Smith is an expert at negotiating in Spanish so Mr Butler and Mrs Vernon-Smith did not have to hum the accompaniments after all!

Our final full day was spent exploring the Dali Museum and performing in Figueres Church. At what was possibly our best concert of the tour, the locals were so impressed that they gave us an ice cream each afterwards. It was extremely hot, and we were glad that we decided not to bring cassocks!

The next morning, we walked to the beach and went on a glass-bottomed boat which took us to a secluded cove. This was our opportunity to relax and play in the sand and water, after which we needed to return to Barcelona and wait for our flight. At the airport, in line with the rest of the tour, we were happy to receive comments congratulating the children on their exceptional behaviour. What a great success! Where shall we go next?

Concert in Windsor Parish Church

If your child is a budding instrumentalist, you may be interested to hear about the following concert in which Mrs Salmond Smith is one of the instrumental soloists. Tickets for children under 16 years of age are free and tickets for adults are £5. Three popular Baroque Concertos will be performed, including Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No IV. The concert will take place in Windsor Parish Church of St. John the Baptist, High Street, Windsor at 1310 on Wednesday 18th July.

Tennis

Thursday saw the conclusion of the U11 and U9 Hall Grove tennis tournaments. With a large number of pupils from Years 3 to 8 taking part in both singles and doubles knockout rounds, competition has been healthy throughout and the finals were no exception. The results are as follows:

U11:

Singles winner: Miles Atkins

Doubles winners: Piers Nicholls and Charlie Millar

Singles runner-up: Cameron Ellis

Doubles runners-up: Barnaby Maddock and Harrison Duff

U9:

Singles winner: George Freeman

Doubles winners: Danny Wessely and George Freeman

Singles runner-up: Cameron Scully

Doubles runners-up: Neel Rai & Oliver Bergstedt

Congratulations to everyone who took part in the tournaments and in particular those mentioned above. The standard of tennis has been very high and these matches were contested passionately (in several cases they were decided in the final couple of games!). The U13 finals will conclude on Tuesday next week and we wish the remaining competitors good luck. All tournament results will be published in this year's Hall Grove Review, together with a round up of school tennis fixtures in which our teams have enjoyed a great deal of success.

Autumn Term Cricket

After the dreadful weather of this year, we may find more suitable conditions in September! Our Four Schools Festival is on Sunday 9th September from 0930 to 1700. Our team will be drawn from this term's Colts and senior teams, so stronger cricketers should be aware that they may be required.

School Reports, Newsletters, Autumn Term Calendars and School Invoices

School reports, a newsletter containing information relating to next term, the Autumn Term Calendar and school invoices will be sent out to parents during the holidays.

Year 7 Battisborough Trip - Autumn Term

The Year 7 Battisborough trip which takes place early in the Autumn Term will be from Monday 17th to Friday 21st September. We are aware that there is a clash of dates with the Wellington Pre-Test for some children, but Wellington is looking into the possibility of changing the date of the test.

Autumn Term 2012 After School Clubs

After School Clubs information for next term will be sent out via email at the beginning of next term. Clubs will start from Monday 17th September.

School Uniform Shop

During the Summer holiday the Uniform Shop will be open at the following times:

Wednesday 25 th July	0900 - 1200
Tuesday 7 th August	0900 - 1200
Thursday 9 th August	1400 - 1700
Monday 3 rd September	0900 - 1200

During term-time, the Uniform Shop is open on Tuesdays from 0800 to 0915 and on Thursdays from 1500 to 1730.

Sports Xtra Summer Camps

Sports Xtra will be running Summer Camps at Hall Grove from 16th July to 10th August. Booking forms were sent home last week which can be completed and returned to the School Office, together with payment (cheques should be made payable to Sports Xtra (South East) Ltd). Bookings can also be made online at www.sports-xtra.com by quoting the course reference number. All the camp options are available to children aged 5 to 14 and run from 0900 to 1600. For further information, please contact Alison Black on 07894 708444.

Groove at the Grove - Saturday 7th July

The event of the year is here and it's not too late to buy tickets. They will be on sale on the gate so don't miss out on a great evening's entertainment. Gates open 1700.

Secondhand Uniform Sale - Monday 9th July

The Secondhand Uniform Sale will take place on Monday afternoon in the marquee in front of the school from 1500 to 1730.

Adult Partner Dance Classes - Autumn Term

Classes will continue next term on a Thursday evening and we have a small number of places available for new members. Complete beginners are very welcome and, if you would like more details or to sign up, please email Dan Slape at partnerdance@hotmail.co.uk (please note that bookings must be made with a partner).

Newsletter Attachments

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

- St. George's Weybridge Hockey Academy for U13/U11

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Valley End Cricket Club Summer Camps

VECC Summer Camps for U9-13s will be held on 6th to 9th August and 20th to 23rd August from 1000 to 1500. For further information or to book, please contact Howard Grice at howard@hgdevelopment.com or on 07894 866968.

For Sale

BMW X3 3.0i (2004) - £7,800. 5 Door 4 x 4 Estate, metallic black, petrol, automatic, 53,000 miles, black leather interior and panoramic electric glass roof. In excellent condition. If interested, please contact Katherine Hughes on 07823 443512 or at katherine@onepotatoblue.com (www.movingtopc.blogspot.co.uk).

