

# Hall Grove School Newsletter



[www.hallgrove.co.uk](http://www.hallgrove.co.uk)

**25<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

**Edition No: 470**

*Term started happily on Wednesday and Summer activities are already in full swing. The Easter holidays brought great progress on the new building and it is really taking shape now. There has also been a major refurbishment of the school kitchens. There have been two highly successful sporting tours; netball to Jersey and tennis to Portugal. Congratulations to all the boys and girls who went on them and our thanks to the Staff who organised them.*

*Parents are encouraged to complete the on-line survey form, details for which are to follow via ClarionCall, that will help inform our discussions at this term's Parents Forum. We are continually looking for ways to improve the school so this feed-back is really valuable for us. Please note that the cut-off for completing the form is next Wednesday.*

*The forecast for tomorrow is disappointing and, as advised, there have been some changes to the Saturday sporting programme.*

## **New Staff**

- Mrs Sophie Womack, Class Teaching Assistant for the Summer Term. Mrs Womack has a degree in Modern History, Economics and Politics.
- Mr Charlie Gold, Boys' Games Teaching Assistant, who will be coaching boys' games and will be acting golf professional.
- Mrs Emma Swanson, part-time marketing and admissions. Mrs Swanson taught at Hall Grove several years ago and has maintained close links with the school since she left to bring up her family.

Temporary front office cover has been shared part-time between Mrs Constance Messenger, recently retired from the Admissions Office at Eton College, and from Mrs Jill Saunders, until recently secretary to Windlesham Parish Council.

## **New Arrival**

Congratulations to Mr Honey (Year 1 teacher) and his wife on the birth of their first child early in the holidays, a son called Leo.

## **Saturday Cricket Training**

Cricket Training tomorrow for Years 5 – 8 has been cancelled.

However, due to matches early next week, there will be Cricket Training at Sunningdale Indoor Nets for the following:

★ 1<sup>st</sup> XI please meet at 0850

★ Colts A to meet at 0950

Sunningdale Indoor Nets can be found behind Bluebells Restaurant on the A30 (SL5 0LE).

## **Music Department**

Results and Success

Results from the recent instrumental exams (Associated Board and Trinity) are starting to filter in. Our own instrumental staff will naturally share the results with you, but we'd also be delighted to hear of and share successes from outside lessons. We heard this week that William Chen received a Distinction for Grade 8 Piano – a fantastic achievement at any age, and the result of many hours of practice, and more notable for coming from somebody still in Year 7 – well done William!

Choristers

Our Choristers had two very successful Radio 4 broadcasts at the end of last term and we hope that many parents had the opportunity to listen and hear just what an advert for our school and for our school community these young children were.

They then helped us to celebrate our end of term Easter Service, a moving and poignant service for those present. Next Tuesday (NOT Monday as the printed calendar states – our apologies for any confusion) Choristers will be singing Evensong at St Alban's Cathedral at 1700, and any support is most welcome.

#### Concerts & Concert Band

Our concerts at the end of last term had many highlights, and we would like to thank all of those who took part or supported these – it was fantastic to hear the range of talent we have, and the sheer joy of performance on display from those new performers right through to our most seasoned musicians. There are further concerts and performances this term, the first of which is our Concert Band performing at the upcoming NGS Garden Opening on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May. Mr Ledger is keen that the children have the chance to perform a number of pieces, and we are extending our rehearsal times for Concert Band next week – Monday's rehearsal will be 0800 – 0900 for all those who can be there (some children will, we know need to be at Choristers rehearsal). If children are unable to make the earlier start time, in the Dining Hall, could you please drop a short email to Miss Post (l.post@hallgrove.co.uk) just so we know, and don't wait unnecessarily.

#### Marching Band

At this time of year we also like to give our Concert Band a children to learn how to march as an ensemble. We are hoping that Concert Band will be able to give a short demonstration on Sports Day, and would like to have a specific rehearsal for this on Wednesdays at 0800. This rehearsal will be in New Hall or, when appropriate, on the school fields. If there are any problems with children attending this rehearsal, again could parents please let Miss Post know.

#### Instrumental Studies Assemblies

Starting from Monday we will be having a number of existing and, potentially, new instrumental staff give short introductions to their instrument(s) in assemblies to Years 3 – 8, and will give the children an idea of what they can aspire to in the future. We are hoping, subject to demand, to bring in additional specialist teachers and give new instrumental options. Letters will be sent home for those children who express an interest in knowing more about instrumental lessons in any of the instruments they meet, giving further information on the expertise and experience of our teachers, on how to take things further through taster lessons and finding out more. For further information, please get in touch.

### Summer Uniform

- Please note the school uniform requires girls to wear ankle socks NOT trainer socks.
- Boys do not require their black/red rugby shirt, shorts and socks in their games bag.

### Swimming

Swimming will commence in a couple of weeks, so please make sure the children have all the relevant kit in school.

### 6EM Assembly - Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May - Cancelled

Please note the 6EM assembly has been cancelled and replaced with the Jersey Games Tour Assembly. Details below.

### Jersey Games Tour Assembly - Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May

Parents are invited to the Jersey Games Tour Assembly on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May. If you are able to attend, please be in New Hall by 0830. We look forward to seeing you there.

### After School Clubs - Summer Term 2014

Clubs commence from Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April.

### TASC Reminder

Please remember to re-book TASC requirements for this term.

### Canoe Club

Children will require shorts, t-shirt, old trainers and a towel for this activity as they are very likely to get wet! They are welcome to wear a wet suit for extra warmth. The instructors will have wet suits available for purchase at the cost of £10 should you wish to get one for your child.

### Footsteps Tap Exams

Congratulations to the pupils in the Footsteps Tap classes who took their I.S.T.D. Tap dance examinations before the Easter holidays. We are delighted that they each achieved a distinction:

Pre-Primary Tap: Eleanor Gunbie, Nerys Tullett

Primary Tap: Emily Armitage, Clara Finn, Dawie Lindeque, Tara Rijal, Emma Winkworth and Emily Wolfe.

These are an amazing set of results. Well done everyone!

*Miss Stein*

### Calendar Amendments

- End of term date is Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July.
- Induction morning for our new pupils (except Reception) is Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July.

## Year 7 Musical 'Guys and Dolls'

A reminder that all Year 7 pupils are required for rehearsals at the weekend as follows:

Saturday 1030 – 1600

Sunday 1215 – 1600

This will form a significant part of our preparation and it is vital we have all children present. We now have less than two weeks to go until our performances and they should all now know their lines off by heart. All children will also require a simple costume in a 1950s American style. We hope parents will be able to help, and suggest the following web link for inspiration: <http://davidmccormick.smugmug.com/Groups/RJ-Grey-JHS-Musical/Guys-and-Dolls/i-MszjGTW>

Please do not go to any great expense. Simple base layers can often be accessorised and we can always help with occasional items from our costume cupboard if required. Where costume items need to be matching we will do our best to source and provide these or speak to parents directly. Please contact me via email if you have any questions: [d.slape@hallgrove.co.uk](mailto:d.slape@hallgrove.co.uk)

## Portugal Tennis Tour

We could not have asked for a better experience. The accommodation and facilities far surpassed our expectations and 5 Star Tennis Holidays provided a top class package. Coaching was of the highest standard and we particularly valued the drive to get the best out of the children in each and every session. Our pupils were extremely well received and enjoyed themselves immensely.

## Sports News

### St. George's Weybridge Netball Champions

The Under 10 As were invited to the St. George's Weybridge invitational netball tournament for the first time this year and won it. It was a wonderful tournament and the parental support was exceptional for this last netball fixture of the season.

### Jersey Games

The group of 14 Year 6 girls, Mrs Maxfield and Mrs Tilley travelled to Jersey last Monday, arriving in glorious sunshine which they were blessed to have for the duration of their trip. The girls made the most of the beautiful weather and they had daily trips to the beach, swam in the indoor and outdoor pools, plus a wonderful afternoon at the zoo and, obviously, the main purpose of our trip – lots of sport. Every morning the girls took part in coaching sessions run by The Jersey Games coaches. They trained alongside girls from the other UK schools which included Lincoln Minster, Terra Nova, The Old Vicarage, Newcastle under Lyme, King's Macclesfield, Highfield (Surrey) and 4 teams from Jersey. On Thursday morning the children went off to participate in various sporting competitions (football, rugby, hockey and netball). Hall Grove entered 2 teams into the netball festival and the results are as follows:

B team:

v Jersey Ravens drew 2-2

v The Old Vicarage drew 1-1

v Highfield B lost 2-3

v Newcastle under Lyme won 5-4

v Jersey Falcons lost 5-0

Finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in pool

A team:

v Jersey Hawks won 14-2

v King's Macclesfield won 11-2

v Jersey Eagles won 17-0

v Highfield A won 6-1

v The Old Vicarage won 8-1

Finished 1<sup>st</sup> in pool

Semi-final v The Old Vicarage won 12-4

Final v Highfield Surrey won 6-5

The A team were awarded the Jersey Games Netball U11 silver trophy and winning medals and the B team were thrilled with their medals for participation. These were given at a presentation evening on Friday night. We look forward to sharing our experiences with parents and the school in our sports assembly on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 0835.

### Rounders

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, Rounders house results: Years 5 and 6: 1<sup>st</sup> Kestrels, 2<sup>nd</sup> Eagles, 3<sup>rd</sup> Hawks, 4<sup>th</sup> Falcons. Years 6, 7 and 8: to be completed at a later date.

### Girls' Calendar reminders and amendments

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April: Selected U13 girls will be playing tennis at Queen Anne's School in Caversham, Reading. Please meet Mrs Lomas at Queen Anne's at 0930.

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May: Please note that the U11 B and U10 A will now be an away fixture. The 1<sup>st</sup> IX and U11 A will now be a home fixture.

### Boys' Sport

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March: Hockey at Bradfield College. The Colts A visited Bradfield College for a training morning and competitive afternoon tournament. Not only did the Colts A win the Bradfield Tournament but they did not concede a goal throughout the day. Well one! We had fantastic parental support on the side-lines for the whole day even through the hail storms and high winds!

#### Boys' Calendar Reminders

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April: 1<sup>st</sup> XI will play in the Surrey Cricket County Cup away at Barrow Hill School at 1400.

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April: Cricket Training – 0900 Years 7 and 8; 1030 Years 5 and 6.

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May: Cricket v Woodcote – 1400 1<sup>st</sup> XI at Hall Grove; 1400 2<sup>nd</sup> XI and Colts A at Woodcote.

Reminder: Sainsbury's School Vouchers. Please continue collecting these and handing them in to school as soon as possible.

## **Adult Netball**

Caroline Windsor and Michelle Riddy (Years 2 & 3 mum) will be holding two 'back to netball' sessions on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May and Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May, so if you fancy having a go, come along to the school astro pitch at 1930 on either of those evenings and see if you enjoy it. Whether you haven't played netball before or it's been a few years since you last played don't worry as we have lots of players with varying skills, abilities and different fitness levels. We train every Monday night (during term time) from 1930 until 2100 on the astro courts. The sessions generally consist of training exercises to improve our skills followed by a friendly practice game between us. So please join us and bring your friends – they don't have to be parents at Hall Grove.

We also joined the Surrey Netball League last season and played league games on Saturdays, every two weeks. By joining us on Monday night's training sessions you are not obliged to play in the team, you can just come along to practice and get fit whilst having fun. If you have any questions please contact Caroline Windsor at [Caroline.Windsor@tfigroup.com](mailto:Caroline.Windsor@tfigroup.com) or Michelle Riddy (07887 793292) at [sriddy@247businessgroup.co.uk](mailto:sriddy@247businessgroup.co.uk)

## **Pony Grove**

Congratulations to Chloe Hill who represented Hall Grove at the Interschools Dressage at Great Bookham over the holidays. Chloe won the First Class and was 2<sup>nd</sup> in Class 2, competing against schools such as Cranleigh, Farlington, St Catherine's and Manor House to name but a few. We have a few spaces for various abilities at Pony Grove so please do ring Caroline Hadden-Wight on 07734 049837 if you would like to try a lesson.

## **Newsletter Attachments**

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

- Crown & Tiara Walk
- Golf & Tennis Lesson Form Summer 2014
- Windlesham Golf Academy After School Club Form
- The Wonderful World of Golf Loyalty Card
- Chelsea Football Club After School Club Form

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## **Puppies!**

The Grahams' family dog, BB, has produced a beautiful litter of puppies that will be ready for new homes in mid June. They are registered Labradors (all black) with fine pedigrees and parents of excellent temperament. If interested please email Mr Graham on [a.graham@hallgrove.co.uk](mailto:a.graham@hallgrove.co.uk)

## **The Wonderful World of Golf – Now open in Sunningdale!**

Come and enjoy the unique, luxury boutique shopping experience at the Wonderful World of Golf. Bring the attached advert with you and collect your loyalty card which will instantly give you 10% off. The Wonderful World of Golf prides itself on giving good honest advice by people in the business. Brands: Acquascutum, Tom Morris, Ecco, Vega, Homna, Ralph Lauren, J Lindberg among other top brands. Tel: 01344 622442. Address: 7 Broomhall Buildings, Chobham Road, Sunningdale, Berks, SL5 ODU.

## **Crown and Tiara Walk**

Crown and Tiara Walk and Family Fun Day is an event to raise funds for Sebastian's Action Trust, a local charity helping families with seriously ill children. The event takes place at Trevelyan School, Windsor on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May from 1000 – 1500. This event is not only a 7 mile walk around the Crown Estate and down the Long Walk, but also a family fun day for all to take part in. The walk will start and finish on the school grounds and the entrance fee (£15 – adults, £10 – child) will include a t-shirt, medal and a crown/tiara to wear on the day. There will also be some of your favourite characters visiting on the day (including Peppa Pig and friends), fun fair rides, inflatables, stalls to buy sweets and food along with merchandise for both adults and children to spend their pennies on. To register for the walk please visit: [www.sebastiansactiontrust.org/crownandtiera](http://www.sebastiansactiontrust.org/crownandtiera) or for more information please ring 01344 622500.

## **FOHG Coffee Morning**

The FOHG will be hosting a coffee morning on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May from 0815 in the Cricket Pavilion. We look forward to seeing you.

*Paula Leech*