

Hall Grove School Newsletter



www.hallgrove.co.uk

13th November 2015

Edition No: 523

Congratulations to Pupils and Staff for coming through the ISI Inspection so well this week. A team of seven Inspectors visited over 50 lessons, scrutinised work, interviewed teachers and children, pored over policies, analysed questionnaire results and made every effort to understand what makes Hall Grove tick. We are especially grateful to those parents and pupils who took the trouble to tell our visitors what they think about aspects of the school.

The result? We shall know in a few weeks, but the early indications are very positive. The Staff will be celebrating tonight!

With the Inspection now behind us, we can focus on some solid teaching and learning for the next few weeks before we start to prepare for all the excitements of the end of term.

Reminder: Independent Schools' Fair 2015 – Saturday 14th & 15th November

Hall Grove will again be exhibiting at this year's Independent Schools Show on Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th November at Battersea Park. As the UK's largest open day, the Independent Schools Show welcomes 200 of the country's leading schools.

There is no better place for you to get a complete understanding of the choices and opportunities that are available for your child; to meet key admissions teams; speak with heads; enquire about entry requirements at all stages and explore scholarships and bursaries.

The attached ticket will allow two adults plus children free entry to the event.

Reminder: 11+ Common Entrance exams

Please could you contact Mr Lewis at t.lewis@hallgrove.co.uk if your child will be sitting the Spring 2016 11+ Common Entrance examination as children need to be registered by **1st December**. This applies to any pupil in Year 6 who is considering a school which does not operate its own form of assessment, but instead prefers entrants to sit this exam. Some schools involved are Benenden, Cheltenham College, Cheltenham Ladies' College, Downe House, Godolphin, Headington, Heathfield, Queen Anne's Caversham, Queenswood, Roedean, Rye St Antony, Seaford, Sherborne Girls, St Mary's (Calne), St Swithun's, Tudor Hall, Westonbirt and Wycombe Abbey.

Reminder: Assemblies

The children of 3VB, 3TL, 4DL and 6DS would like to invite their parents to their Class Assembly. If you are able to attend, please be in New Hall by 0830. We look forward to seeing you there.

3VB Assembly	Tuesday 17 th November
6DS Assembly	Thursday 19 th November
4DL Assembly	Tuesday 24 th November
3TL Assembly	Thursday 26 th November

Year 5 Trip to HMS Victory

Year 5 had a fantastic trip to the Naval Dockyard in Portsmouth on Tuesday. The boys and girls were given the opportunity to explore the Royal Navy museums and have a guided tour on HMS Victory. It was an extremely interesting trip and there were a number of comments on the good behaviour of the boys and girls, something that seems to be the norm nowadays with Hall Grove trips. Mr Toulson was full of enthusiasm and helpful with factual information. It was a great day all round.

ISTD Tap exams (Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing)

Our congratulations to all the boys and girls who performed for their ISTD Tap exams on Saturday morning. They were beautifully turned out in costume and full of smiles and enthusiasm. Thank you to Miss Stein who runs her 'Footsteps' classes with an air of real quality and enthusiasm, she did a super job to ensure all children were well prepared on Saturday and we know they are looking forward to receiving their results in a few weeks. Thank you also to parents for their help and support on the day. This is the first year Hall Grove has hosted an examination as a registered centre and we understand that the ISTD examiner, Miss Stevens, was enormously impressed and she left with a glowing impression of the school.

Year 8 Young Enterprise Design Challenge

Congratulations to our Year 8 pupils who raised £1138.30 for charity as part of a new Young Enterprise project launched by the Visual Arts Faculty this year. Four teams, representing Food, Ceramics, Art and DT, competed in a 'design and make' challenge preparing items to sell at the Country Fair. There was a healthy footfall at all the stands as key rings, hand-painted silk cards, artisan ceramic ornaments and delicious fudge were the order of the day. In particular, our congratulations go to this year's winners, Team DT (Max Moffat, Danny Wessely, Katie Walker, Ryan Vandenberg, Emily Thorne, Danyal Najib, Henry Coop and Amaarpreet Grewal), whose acrylic House key rings sold faster than the hottest hot cakes and raised an unrivalled £720! The teams have calculated the cost of their raw materials and reviewed their product sales, target market, pricing, gross and net takings and profits margins. This project has provided a brilliant insight into the world of business enterprise and so many of the children have demonstrated the potential for future success. Thank you to parents for their support and congratulations to everyone involved.

Music

Year 3 Music Evening

Year 3 had a fantastic evening on Wednesday, transporting us around the British Isles, singing about Irish shellfish sellers, millers, going to a fair, seeing a drunken sailor and more! They were very ably supported by our Year 3 band - Abby Parker (recorder), Oliver Hudson (violin) and Indiana Leech (flute), who were most professional as musicians, as we made last-minute changes to arrangements and experimented with pieces. A very big thank you to the band, to all of Year 3, to our instrumental staff, and to the parents for supporting their children's music-making.

Informal Piano Concert III

Today we heard from 15 pianists, from Year 1 through to Year 8, from children using only 3 fingers to several children working well beyond their age, right through to William Chen, who gave us one of his upcoming Music Diploma pieces. Well done to all for conquering last minute nerves, and for the practice and hard work put in.

Informal Strings (and Wind) Concert next week

We are looking forward to our next Informal Concert, which will be strings players (violin, viola, 'cello, guitar, harp will all be most welcome) and some of our wind players. If your child learns outside school and would like to part, please contact Miss Post (l.post@hallgrove.co.uk).

Remembrance Service

Concert Band and Choristers helped to lead a most moving Remembrance Service, and several in attendance were moved close to tears by the powerful performances. The school also contributed well with their almost impromptu rendition of Ivor Novello's *Keep the Home Fires Burning*.

Sports News

Congratulations to Elliot Sleep and George Freeman who have been selected for the second round of the U13 ISFA South Central Football Trials. They have also been selected for the Under 13 A District football squad. Archie Rhodes has been selected for the Under 11 A District football squad. James Crane, Josh Symons, Callum Kinner and Thomas Morley were selected for the Under 12 Development Squad. Toby Rofe, Linus Bray, Ben Turnor and Adam Humpish were all selected for the Under 11 District Development football squad. Well done to all of you.

Our weekly matches form part of the coaching session and children have been taught particular coaching principles, encouraging words are greatly appreciated, however conflicting coaching advice on the side-line can be very confusing and put our children on the sports arena under unnecessary pressure. Please can we ask that parents cheer on Hall Grove and be supportive of coaches, referees and umpires. Kindly remember the children are still in lessons during fixtures - please try not to distract them until they are dismissed to you.

Please note the girls' sport is now netball (white socks), the hockey kit can now all go home; anything not collected will be put into storage with the school equipment.

Girls' Games

The senior girls enjoyed coaching from Wellington College's Head of Netball and the Years 5 and 6 girls had incredibly hard netball fixtures against Guildford High. Despite some heavy losses Mrs Maxfield was impressed with the U11 A team players, who held GH for a draw. We had narrow losses for the U10 B & C teams. Swapping sports half-way through the term is always hard and highlights the importance of children participating in their favourite sport at a local club; this will help maintain the level of training needed for the teams to match the strong schools we now compete against. Any U10 and U11 player who would like information on a local netball club please contact Mrs Maxfield (k.maxfield@hallgrove.co.uk).

All the U9s played their first netball fixture at Claremont this week. It was a promising start to the season with 1 win, 1 draw and 1 loss. The U8 A & B teams travelled to Cranleigh to participate in their annual netball festival where the girls were given their first opportunity to compete against other schools. Despite this being a fair distance to travel it gives the girls a great taste for what is to come in their sporting careers at Hall Grove. Congratulations to all the girls who represented Hall Grove.

Congratulations to Katie Walker who has been selected for the Surrey Netball Academy. She joins Tabitha Norrey on the first part of the England Netball Talent Pathway.

Girls' Games Notices

19th November U9 Netball v Halstead. All Year 4 girls will be selected for this fixture. Please note the later match time of 1615, estimated finish will be 1700.

21st November 1st VII netball to meet Mrs Maxfield at St Mary's Ascot 0845, collection from 1200.
U10 A netball to meet Mrs Lomas and Miss Maxfield at Hall Grove 0800, estimated collection will be 1300.

Boys' Games

The senior boys enjoyed their first competitive rugby matches against Hoe Bridge on Wednesday, winning just under half of their games. There were narrow losses for the 1st and 2nd XV and a good win for the 3rd XII. Well done to the Colts teams who all won. The Under 10s lost all their matches, but well done to the A team who enjoyed a close game and worked hard.

The Under 9s enjoyed their first full contact rugby matches v Eagle House and Feltonfleet in a triangular set of fixtures. Although results might not have gone our way, the boys are beginning to understand how important it is to tackle and run straight with the ball.

Boys' Games Notices

The Rugby 10s team (1st X) are to meet Mr Cottrell at Hall Grove at 0845 for the annual Hall Grove Rugby 10s Tournament on Saturday.

House matches will now take place for Years 7 & 8 boys on Wednesday 18th November at 1430.

As per the ClarionCall message that was sent out: the Years 5 & 6 house rugby matches have been moved from Saturday 21st November to Wednesday 18th November at 1430. An optional rugby training session will run on Saturday 21st November for those that would like to attend, run by Hall Grove Staff from 0900 to 1000.

The 1st XI football team will play in the U13 Surrey Cup Final on Saturday 21st November at Cumnor House School at 1000. They should meet at Hall Grove at 0815 for departure.

Hall Grove are still waiting to hear who our opponents will be in the U11 Surrey Cup Plate semi-final. If Hall Grove win the semi-final, the final will be played on Saturday 21st November at Parkside School with a 1300 kick off.

The Under 9 C and D fixtures next Thursday are now being played at Rokeby Sports Ground (KT4 7QB) – the first fixture is at 1430. The A and B fixtures are being played at Hall Grove.

Friends of Hall Grove (FOHG)

Reminder: FOHG Spring Ball - Saturday 19th March 2016

The countdown has begun. Get into gear, FOHG School Ball details soon to be revealed!

Open Mornings

Holme Grange (open evening)	Thursday 19 th November	0118 978 1566
Queen Anne's, Caversham	Friday 20 th November	0118 918 7300
Leighton Park School	Tuesday 8 th December	0118 987 9600

Newsletter Attachments

The following information is available on the school website:

- Weekly Music Rehearsal Schedule 2015 - 2016
- Bagshot Football Club
- Bradfield Hockey Camps
- Independent Schools' Fair Ticket
- Quince Players' Production of 'Robin Hood'

Wentworth Christmas Fayre 2015 – Monday 23rd November

The Wentworth Christmas Fayre takes place on Monday 23rd November 2015 from 1000 till 1600 at Wentworth Golf Club. Stallholders have come from all over the country and are offering a wonderful selection to include fashion, jewellery, handbags, gourmet food and lots more. Tombola proceeds will be donated to Christopher's Smile, which is a local children's charity funding research into cancer.

Quince Players' Production of 'Robin Hood' 14th – 17th and 20th – 23rd January 2016

Tickets go on sale from 17th November for the Sunningdale Panto, 'Robin Hood', featuring Freddie and Florence Coughlin (Year 7 & Year 5) in the cast. Please see link below and flyer attached for more information.
www.quinceplayers.com.