

# Hall Grove School Newsletter



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

**4<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

**Edition No: 526**

*Please note the timings given in this Newsletter of the various end of term functions we are preparing for. The Carol Service at Windlesham Church is open to all, however parents whose children are not in the Choir or reading a lesson are asked to sit in the side aisle not in the nave.*

*Details of Spring Term Clubs are attached; terms and conditions can be found on the school website. We have tried to accommodate as much choice as possible within the constraints of staffing, space and other resources. Finding a good balance on every night is never easy but we hope parents will appreciate the efforts that we go to.*

*A final plea: too many parents are coming into school through side doors, and some even find their way into the changing rooms. This is clearly not appropriate (see below). All visitors should report through the front office please.*

## **Year 3 Staffing**

Next term we will be joined by Miss Anne Davidson who will provide maternity cover during Mrs Laws' absence. Miss Davidson is a very experienced teacher and she will be an asset to the Middle School team. She has recently returned from teaching in Hong Kong. Miss Davidson has been appointed as a full-time teacher.

We are very sad to announce that Mrs Doherty leaves us in February to join her husband at his new posting in Lille. Mrs Doherty has been a lynchpin of Year 3 for many years and she will be greatly missed. Replacing her is a Hall Grove Old Boy, Mark Collier, a qualified teacher who is returning from a spell working in Australia. Mr Collier has previously taught Year 3 at a London prep school and is very highly regarded as a teacher. He is also a very keen and capable sportsman, (his father, David Collier, is the former Chief Executive of the English Cricket Board).

We are confident that these two new appointments will build on our strengths and provide the children of Year 3 with the continuity that they need.

## **Spring Term Clubs**

Details of the programme are attached, and on-line booking is available from **Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> December at 1100.**

Please note that terms and conditions of booked clubs are available on the school website under the Extra-Curricular tab.

We have this term extended a little further the range and variety of activities on offer, and we aim to provide a good balance each afternoon. As can be seen from the programme, a number of the activities have again been grouped within a club so that we can increase the staffing and give the children some more options.

After school clubs help children develop interests, and are important complements to the curriculum subjects. As well as the personal satisfaction to be gained from developing a hobby, we wish all our pupils to find activities that they

enjoy and can talk about with enthusiasm at senior school interviews. We hope parents will encourage their children to explore some of the Club options that are available.

## **Christmas Gifts**

The practice of bringing gifts in at the end of term can get out of hand, and you are reminded that school is not the place for children to exchange presents with one another, nor may they bring in sweets and food. We encourage boys and girls to use the Christmas Post collection and delivery system for any cards they may write for friends and staff, it is a way for them to contribute to our Christmas Charity (this year we are supporting Cancer Research UK, Christian Aid and Sebastian's Action Trust). £1 or £2 would be appreciated. As for gifting teachers, of course this is not necessary; however messages of thanks are always very much appreciated.

## **Christmas Event Reminders**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	1830	Years 1 and 2 present 'The Magical Christmas Box'
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	1100	Pre-School Christmas Nativity (The Barn)
	1315	Years 1 and 2 Christmas Activity Afternoon
	1830	Reception Nativity 'Starlight' (The Barn)
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	1900	Year 3 present 'The Little Shepherd'
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	1900	Year 4 present 'Christmas is Forever'
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	1630	Carol Service at Windlesham Parish Church

### **Years 1 and 2 present 'The Magical Christmas Box' – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December**

The Years 1 and 2 Christmas Play is taking place on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 1830 in New Hall. It should last approximately forty minutes. Parents and grandparents of the pupils performing are most welcome to come along. The children should return to school at 1800 and be dropped off at their classrooms, where staff will help them change into their costumes. Parents are then invited to take their seats in New Hall. After the performance, the children will be taken back to their classrooms for collection. Please do not take them directly from the hall.

### **Pre-School Christmas Nativity – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December**

The Pre-School Christmas Nativity is taking place on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 1100 at The Barn. It should last approximately thirty minutes. Parents and grandparents of the pupils performing are most welcome to come along.

### **Years 1 and 2 Christmas Activity Afternoon – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December**

The children of Years 1 & 2 would like to invite any parent who would like to participate in a Christmas activity to come to the classrooms at 1315 on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Reception present their Christmas Nativity 'Starlight' - Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December**

The Reception Nativity is taking place on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 1830 at The Barn. It should last approximately thirty minutes. Parents and grandparents of the pupils performing are most welcome to come along. We will be serving winter warming drinks. The children should return to school at 1800 where staff will help them change into their costumes.

### **Year 3 present 'The Little Shepherd' – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

The children in Year 3 are looking forward to giving a festive performance of 'The Little Shepherd' on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December in New Hall starting at 1900.

Please note that we will have a dress rehearsal during the school day on Friday 11<sup>th</sup>. Form staff will ensure costumes return home safely, ready for the evening. All props are to remain at school. Please collect children at their normal pick up time, to be returned to their form rooms in costume at 1830. Parents are then invited to take their seats in New Hall. At the end of the performance the children will return to their classrooms for collection.

Costumes: We are very grateful for the fantastic support parents give in helping with their child's costume. As always, we ask that you do not go to too much expense or trouble. A simple jacket or blouse can often be accessorised to great effect and we can also add additional items from our costume store. A note on costumes can be found in your child's diary but please feel free to contact the form teacher for any further information. Pupils should bring their costumes in as soon as possible, and no later than Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

Due to the absence of Mrs Laws and their preparation for a wonderful assembly on Thursday, we are aware that 3TL are a little behind. We hope to have their parts cast early next week.

### **Year 4 present 'Christmas is Forever' – Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

All children in Year 4 are looking forward to a festive performance of 'Christmas is Forever' on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December in New Hall, starting at 1900. Please note that we will have a dress rehearsal during the school day on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>. Form staff will ensure costumes return home safely, ready for the evening. All props are to remain at school. Please collect children at their normal pick up time, to be returned to their form rooms in costume at 1830. Parents are then invited to take their seats in New Hall. At the end of the performance the children will return to their classrooms for collection.

Costumes: We are very grateful for the fantastic support parents give in helping with their child's costume. As always, we ask that you do not go to too much expense or trouble. A simple jacket or blouse can often be accessorised to great effect and we can also add additional items from our costume store. A note on costumes can be found in your child's diary but please feel free to contact the form teacher for any further information. Pupils should bring their costumes in as soon as possible, and no later than Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Year 5 Show – Date for your diary**

Pupils are working on an exciting show which will be performed in the Spring Term on the evening of Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Reminder: Carol Service – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

Our annual Carol Service will be held at Windlesham Church on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 1630. Parents are most welcome to attend. Years 7 and 8 will be taken by school minibus together with those who are in the Choir. Other children in Years 3 – 6 will be available to go home at **1530** unless parents request school supervision until normal collection time, however, please note that neither clubs nor Twilight will be happening.

If you are unable to collect your child at 1530 and wish him or her to stay at school until normal collection time, please email the school office by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December at the very latest.

Members of the Choir, together with pupils in Years 7 and 8, may be collected by their parents from the Church at about 1730, and those not collected will be taken back to school in a minibus.

### **Congratulations Footsteps Tap classes!**

Congratulations to the pupils in the Footsteps Tap classes who took their I.S.T.D Tap dance examinations in November. We are delighted that they all passed achieving the following results:

#### Pre Primary Tap

Distinction: Abby Parker, Emily Taylor, Freya Taylor, Jemima Fry, Lula Allams, Amber Kelsall, Amelia Aplin, Kiara Timm, Sophia Brennen.

#### Grade 1 Tap

Distinction: Emily Wolfe, Emily Armitage, Tara Rijal. Merit: Dawie Lindeque, Tabitha Tonkin, Florence Coughlin. These are a super set of results. Well done everyone!

*Miss Stein*

### **Hall Grove's Got Talent (HGGT)**

Now their exams are over we are sure the children will enjoy preparations for our annual talent show!

The format: Each form group from Years 5, 6, 7 & 8 will be allowed to enter one act (maximum of 3 minutes in length). Anyone wishing to enter should show their act to their form teacher and form group, who will decide upon the strongest performance to be put forward for the main event. Each year group will also have one 'Wild Card' entry, which does not have to be used but may be submitted should there be an exceptional runner-up entry that is just too good to miss! The wild card can include children from different form groups (in the same year group); however, as there is only one of these the children have more chance of getting into the final show if they prepare an act with children from their own form. In the past, acts have consisted of gymnastic and circus displays, street dance or Bollywood routines, magic shows, pop songs and comedy sketches. It is not a show for individual music recitals (which are better suited to our Informal Concerts) but music plays a big part in the show and it is the ideal opportunity for musicians to collaborate and perhaps accompany a vocal act or even form a band!

This is a show produced 'by the children, for the children', however we have no objections to parents taking a seat at the back of the hall (or even accompanying an act if they wish!). HGGT will start at 1000 in New Hall on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Year 8 Performing Arts Options for the Spring/Summer Term**

This term Year 8 have experienced a performing arts carousel to get a taster of nine different projects, (three in dance, three in drama and three in music). The topics were generated by the children in a brainstorming session at the start of term and include Digital Mash-ups (music), Moves from the Musicals (dance) and a Hall Grove Soap Opera (drama). We would be grateful if, over the weekend, Year 8 children would complete an on-line questionnaire which has been shared to them via Frog. The performing arts team are keen to listen to the 'student voice', particularly of the older children, so we ask that they think carefully about their feedback and choices for future projects. It is very quick and should not take longer than ten minutes to complete.

Please note we will do our best to accommodate the children's choices, however there needs to be a degree of flexibility from pupils and we cannot guarantee they will get to do all of their three top choices. We may not be able to run a project if there is insufficient interest but where a topic is particularly popular we might be able to run a unit twice to give more children the opportunity to participate. We look forward to receiving their feedback.

### **Reminder: Judo and After School Clubs, TASC and Twilight**

The last club session for Judo is today, Footsteps and Chelsea Football clubs have also now finished for this term. All other clubs will finish by or on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Twilight will operate as usual up to and including Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December only. TASC will operate as usual until Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> inclusive, however, please note that TASC is now full for Monday 14<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December inclusive.

### **Headlice**

There has been a case of headlice reported in Pre-School. We would ask you to check all members of your family this weekend and, if lice are found, treat as soon as possible with the lotion recommended by your chemist. Regular checks at home are important. Lice spread rapidly and, if we are going to keep the problem at bay, we do need your co-operation.

### **End of Term Arrangements – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

Term ends on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December. The collection times are as follows, although older pupils may leave with their younger siblings:

1100	Reception
1115	Years 1 and 2
1130	Years 3, 4 and 5
1145	Years 6, 7 and 8

Please ensure that the children have all been collected by 1200; there is a staff meeting then so we are unable to look after stragglers.

Parents are invited to attend the informal musical gathering of 'Carols in the Courtyard' which starts at 1100. This is a nice way to support the school's chosen charities, to say farewells before the Christmas break, eat a mince pie and have a cup of mulled wine; there is always a very jolly atmosphere. The drive will be closed and parking will be on the playing fields. In the event of very wet weather we would have to cancel.

### **Spring Term 2016**

Term starts on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January and normal drop off and collection times apply. Breakfast will be available for those who have pre-booked it. TASC and Twilight commence on the first day of term. After School Clubs start on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January and the first Judo session is Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Music**

#### **Informal Brass and Woodwind Concert**

Today we heard from several of our musicians, playing a range of instruments from Trumpet, Saxophone and Flute through to Recorder. It was fantastic to hear a variety of musical styles including jazz and pop through to medieval! Well done to all the performers who played with superb confidence and panache.

## **Carol Service 16<sup>th</sup> December**

A reminder that adult singers for the carol service are warmly invited to join the chorister rehearsals on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>, in addition to the afternoon rehearsal on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

## **Music Exams**

Results are gradually coming in from many of our peripatetics and will be published in due course. If your child learns outside of school and has recently taken an exam please let Miss Post ([l.post@hallgrove.co.uk](mailto:l.post@hallgrove.co.uk)) know the result.

For any upcoming music exams, please could parents make sure the School Office are aware in advance when their child will be absent from school. In the meantime, keep practising and good luck!

## **Sports News**

After matches on Wednesdays (Years 5 - 8) and Thursdays (Years 3 & 4) children may be collected to go home by parents who have been watching their match. Please make sure that your child's coach is aware of this and that your child has been 'signed out' by the teacher in charge and dismissed off the drive. If you have not been watching your child play in a match please note that you should collect your child at the normal pick-up time.

## **A Polite Notice**

Please note that the boys and girls changing rooms are out of bounds to parents and school visitors. Even if collecting belongings, please find a member of staff to search for you. For obvious reasons, it is inappropriate for non-authorised visitors to enter these areas.

## **Girls' Games**

The senior girls had a really positive set of results this week with ten wins out of thirteen, we again varied the opposition to ensure a good cross section of fixtures. The 1<sup>st</sup> VII had an impressive 24-4 win against Farnborough Hill, Emilia Wyatt and Scarlett Creasey making a formidable shooting partnership. Hats off to the Hardy sisters, Olivia (Year 7) and Lily (Year 5) who both individually had outstanding matches this week and their performances contributed to both their teams' impressive wins. The U11's had 2 out of 4 wins with Olivia Llewellyn-Jones shooting well for the B team. The U10's played some impressive netball winning 3 out of 4 matches; well done to the C and D team who both beat A & B teams, the girls showed great concentration and focus with the D team stealing the lead in the last few minutes of the match! Well done to Hope Wood and Sienna Edwards who played some great netball.

The junior girls had a brilliant week winning all of their matches and going from strength to strength with Julia Ahlstrom impressing Mrs Tilley with her determination to improve. The U8's have all played in netball fixtures and continue to improve week by week. Nina van Eeden was selected as girl of the match v Cranleigh.

## **Girls' Games Notices**

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December - Eagle House Netball fixtures all start at 1400.

Netball Camps - Mrs Maxfield will be running netball camps in January - Years 3 & 4 on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Years 6 - 8 on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> these will be held at Lightwater Leisure Centre and spaces will be limited. Bookings must be made in advance, to register your interest please email Mrs Maxfield ([k.maxfield@hallgrove.co.uk](mailto:k.maxfield@hallgrove.co.uk)).

## **Boys' Games**

Bryanston Prep Schools Rugby 7's Tournament

The 1<sup>st</sup> VII and Colts A had a great day at the Bryanston Prep Schools 7's tournament. The 1<sup>st</sup> VII won 2 of their 4 group games, beating The Pilgrims School and The Dragon, losing narrowly to Perrot Hill and to St Olave's, York. This put them in the Cup Quarter Final against Millfield Prep, where they lost - both St Olave's and Millfield went on to play in the Final. The boys all performed well and Mr Cottrell was very pleased with the effort from all the boys who took part.

The Colts A had a successful afternoon, not losing a group game and beating much bigger prep schools such as Port Regis, Sherborne Prep and Pilgrims. They lost narrowly in their Cup Quarter Final to St Peter's, Devon by one try.

The other squads were all involved in fixtures v Crosfields, congratulations to the U10 A team who had a good win. With many of the U11 and U13 boys away, it gave opportunities to other children to play in different teams.

## **Boys' Games Notices**

Year 5 Home Nations Tournament

All Year 5 boys are selected to play in a 'Home Nations' tournament this Saturday morning. Teams have been selected and put on the noticeboard. A ClarionCall message was also sent to parents. Boys need to wear corresponding colours

to the team they are playing in. The matches start at 0900 and boys should meet at Hall Grove at 0845, the tournament will be finished by 1000.

#### Rugby v Eagle House

Please note the change in timings for the following fixtures: Under 9 C and E will now play at 1500. The Under 8 D team will play at 1450.

### **Open Mornings**

Leighton Park School  
King Edward's, Witley

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December  
Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November

0118 987 9600  
01428 686735

### **Newsletter Attachments**

The following information is available on the school website:

- Weekly Music Rehearsal Schedule 2015 - 2016
- Bagshot Football Club
- Bradfield Hockey Camps
- Big Game 8 Harlequins v Gloucester Rugby
- ACTion and Adventure at The Royal School
- Footy Tekkerz Coaching Christmas Camp
- Spring Term Clubs

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### **Sebastian's Action Trust Santa Fun Run – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

Get into the festive spirit and join Sebastian's Action Trust for their sixth Santa Fun Run on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December at Virginia Water in Berkshire. The 7km picturesque run, which starts at 1030, is open to runners of all ages and everyone who takes part, whether they choose to dash, prance or dance around the lake, will receive a complimentary Santa Suit and a medal. Entrance to the event is £15 for adults; £10 for children and free for under 5s, or a family ticket (two adults and two children) can be purchased for £40. Simply call 01344 622500 or visit [www.sebastiansactiontrust.org](http://www.sebastiansactiontrust.org) to ditch your sleigh and register for this fun, family event.

### **Chelsea Foundation Christmas Soccer School – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December to Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

Chelsea is running a Christmas Soccer School at LVS Ascot. Please see flyer on the website for contact details and more information.

### **Footy Tekkerz Coaching Christmas Camp**

Footy Tekkerz Coaching is a local coaching company. A general day will consist of specific training for outfield players and goal keepers, skill session and fun games, free time, mini matches, penalty shoot-out and ending with a presentation.

Dates: 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> December

Ages: Boys and girls 4-12 years

For further details and bookings please see attached flyer

### **ACTion and Adventure at The Royal School**

Christmas ACTion Camp: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2015

Open to all girls and boys in Reception to Year 8.

Booking is now open! Please see the attached flyer and book and pay online via [www.royal-school.org/action-camps](http://www.royal-school.org/action-camps).

### **Big Game 8 Harlequins v Gloucester Rugby 27<sup>th</sup> December at Twickenham Stadium**

Big Game 8 is for the whole family with entertainment for all. It's a great way to enjoy world class rugby on our door step and support the Harlequins team in the process - see flyer on the website.