

# Hall Grove School Newsletter



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

8<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Edition No: 528

*A Happy New Year to all our readers! We hope everyone enjoyed a good break over the Christmas holidays. It was great to see the boys and girls back on Wednesday, all eager for the new term.*

*The Winter storms have made the lawns and pitches very wet but there has been some imaginative use of our resources for games, PE and play times. Thank goodness for our Astroturf pitch. The staff are looking at different ways to keep the children active; a recent trip to the Virginia Water lake ensured the running team had a good run out!*

*Our best wishes for another happy and successful term.*

## **Pre-Prep Collection**

Parents are requested to take much firmer control of their own children at going-home time. Free play on the sports pitches is not under any circumstances allowed, and running around the cars in the car park is of course extremely dangerous. In this respect whilst sensible, supervised play on the climbing frame is sanctioned, if it gets out of hand the school will close it.

## **New Staff Appointments**

We are very pleased to welcome to the staff three new teachers this term. To join the Year 3 team we have Anne Davidson and Mark Collier. Miss Davidson has recently returned from teaching in Hong Kong and will cover Mrs Laws' class during her maternity absence. Mr Collier has recently returned from teaching in Australia. He is a former pupil of Hall Grove and a very keen all round sportsman. He will take over Mrs Doherty's class when she leaves us later this term.

Philip White's early career was in the Army and he has also had some experience in the commercial world. He is now at Hall Grove training to be a teacher. Not surprisingly given his background, Mr White will become a key player in outdoor education at Hall Grove, leading practical sessions in the woods and developing our leadership programme for Years 7 and 8.

We are delighted with all these appointments and hope that they will settle happily at Hall Grove.

## **Upper School Assembly – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January**

A speaker from the Titus Trust will be attending the Upper School Assembly next Friday (15<sup>th</sup> January) in the Dining Hall at 0840. He will be promoting the excellent prep school residential camps that are run in the Summer holidays. We strongly recommend the camps, especially for boys and girls who will eventually board because it is such good experience for them. They really are brilliant. Parents are welcome to attend.

## **Charities Update**

### **The School Council's Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Charity Post**

The final day of the Autumn term saw children and staff wearing festive Christmas jumpers and donating money to charity, raising £664.07. The Christmas Charity Post was well supported and raised £143.50, bringing the total for

both Christmas fundraising efforts to £807.57! Together with donations received at the various Christmas productions and shows, over £4,000 was collected. Details of how this money has been disbursed will be given next week.

### **Chennai Flood Disaster**

At the end of last term Mrs Rajasekar (mother of Rajit 1GM and Rachana PHS) appealed for donations of money and clothes suitable for sending out to India to help flood victims.

Over 100 bags of clothing were donated, raising a total of £1,360 including £540 collected on the stall at 'Carols in the Courtyard'.

### **Ski Trip**

Thirty-six boys and girls enjoyed an excellent ski trip to Zell an See, Austria over the New Year. The trip was blessed with warm sunny conditions and a good amount of snow (thanks to snow cannons), allowing the party to enjoy some excellent skiing. Everyone had five hours of instructor-led skiing each day, making huge improvements as the week progressed and culminating in an exciting slalom competition on the last day. The beginners did very well and are now all competent skiers able to take on blue/red runs and even able to ski backwards. As part of their evening activities, the children enjoyed trampolining, bouldering, football, basketball, beach volleyball and a New Year's Eve party.

We would like to invite parents, together with anyone else who is interested in next year's trip, to a Ski Trip Assembly on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January to get a flavour of what it is like. We hope that the school will go to the same resort in Austria in 2017, departing on January 2<sup>nd</sup> and returning on January 8<sup>th</sup>. Please email Mr Tullett ([i.tullett@hallgrove.co.uk](mailto:i.tullett@hallgrove.co.uk)) if you would like to reserve a place for your son or daughter.

### **Calendar Amendments and Additions**

- Year 7 will be visiting the Tower of London on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January, not 19<sup>th</sup> as published in the calendar. The trip takes place during school hours.
- Our Spring Term Ensembles Concert (all musical ensembles will perform) will now be on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March. Our Instrumental Competition Winners' Concert will now be on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

### **Key Spring Term Dates for your Diary**

Please see listed below important key dates for your diary:

<b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Year 7 to the Tower of London (calendar amendment)
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	Pre-School Parent Interviews
<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	Pre-School Parent Interviews
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Year 5 Present 'Scenes from Matilda'
<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Year 1 to Living Rainforest, Newbury Reception, Years 1 and 2 Parent Interviews
<b>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Reception, Years 1 and 2 Parent Interviews
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	School Exam Week (Years 7 and 8)
<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Years 3 and 4 Parent Interviews
<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	Years 3 and 4 Parent Interviews
<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 4 Pre-Battisborough 'Sleepover' at Hall Grove
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 5 to Battisborough Years 7 and 8 Parent Interviews
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Years 7 and 8 Parent Interviews
<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Years 5 and 6 Parent Interviews
<b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Years 5 and 6 Parent Interviews

<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Open Morning for Prospective Parents
<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Friends of Hall Grove Ball
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	Ensembles Concert (calendar addition)
<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	Pre-Prep Spring Celebration
<b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	Instrumental competition Winners' Concert (calendar amendment)
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Easter Service and Term Ends

## 2017 Term Dates

### Spring 2017

Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> January – Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> March

Half Term: Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> February – Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> February (inclusive)

### Summer 2017

Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> April – Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> July

Half Term: Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> May – Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> June (inclusive)

Pre-Prep Sports Day      Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June

Sports Day (Years 3-8)      Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June

## Mountain Bike Open Morning – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January - Year 3 and 4

We are pleased to announce the first Hall Grove Mountain Bike Open Morning for Year 3 and Year 4 this Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> January. As outlined in the school calendar, there are two free taster sessions planned on our new bike trail: Year 3 cyclists are due to ride from 0900 to 1030 and our Year 4 mountain bikers can enjoy the trail between 1030 to 1200. The drop-off point will be by Little Grove. The children will be given a chance to ride off-road and hone their bike skills at their own pace under the guidance of Mr Allams and Mr Tullett.

Please make sure your child is warmly dressed in kit that will get muddy. Gloves and a well-fitting helmet are essential. The idea is for your child to gain confidence in handling their bike on trails by practising on their own bike, **but we will have bikes available for those who don't have their own.** Please bring a snack and drink for your children to have during the session (all litter taken home please!). Tea and coffee will be available in the Pavilion for parents.

## Class Assemblies

All parents are welcome to attend their child's Class Assembly. We look forward to seeing you in New Hall at 0830.

- 5LM Assembly      Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January
- 6AK Assembly      Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January

## TASC Bookings

Please remember to book all your TASC requirements via the School Office on 01276 473059 or email [office@hallgrove.co.uk](mailto:office@hallgrove.co.uk)

## After School Clubs – Spring Term 2016

After School Clubs start on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January and run until Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March.

## Music

Well done to all those who have recently taken music exams. We have received the following results so far:

Grace Aldridge - Grade 1 flute - Pass

Florence Coughlin - Grade 3 singing - Merit

Annabel Hatten - Grade 1 flute - Merit

Heidi Kelsall - Grade 1 flute - Distinction

Issy Llewellyn-Jones - Grade 3 singing - Merit

Olivia Llewellyn-Jones - Grade 2 singing - Merit

William Stockford - Prep Test recorder - Pass  
Sophie Stroyberg - Prep Test piano - Pass  
Max Tenenbaum - Grade 2 piano - Merit  
Emily Wolfe - Grade 3 singing - Pass  
Emily Wolfe - Grade 1 piano - Merit  
Catriona Wood - Grade 1 piano - Distinction

These are a result of the hard work and practice of the children, their teachers and the support of family - a big thank you to all!

### **Practice Club**

Practice Club is available once again, starting Monday and running through to the penultimate week of term (to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March). Bookings need to be made for each new school term - if your child has been booked last term you will need to re-book for this term, and of course we're very happy to help any children in their practice, subject to room availability. 30 minute supervised practice sessions are available Monday - Friday from 1630 to 1830. Please contact Miss Post ([l.post@hallgrove.co.uk](mailto:l.post@hallgrove.co.uk)) to make a booking.

## **Sports News**

### **Girls' Games**

The girls had a good start to term with pre-season netball camps followed on Wednesday by house netball matches  
Years 6 - 8: 1<sup>st</sup> Eagles, 2<sup>nd</sup> Falcons, 3<sup>rd</sup> Kestrels  
Years 5 & 6: 1<sup>st</sup> Kestrels, 2<sup>nd</sup> Hawks, 3<sup>rd</sup> Eagles.

We were also delighted to have Elly Moore, one of the England Regional Netball coaches, lead a master class on defence; the girls worked hard and enthusiastically.

As the weather becomes more inclement it is imperative the girls have full track suit and fleeces where possible. We are fortunate to have Lightwater Leisure Centre Sports Hall booked for indoor netball training and fixtures on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Please note your daughter may be collected immediately after their fixture from Lightwater, otherwise they will have to wait for the completion of the fixtures and they will be returned to school for normal pick up.

### **Girls' Games Notices**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January - U9 Hoe Bridge netball tournament. The girls should meet Mrs Maxfield at Hoe Bridge by 0915. Please ensure your child wears wet weather sports kit. No dogs are allowed on site at Hoe Bridge and they have also asked parents NOT to walk on the grass area near the courts.

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January - 1<sup>st</sup> VII please meet Mrs Maxfield at Hall Grove by 0800. The estimated return time will be 1300.

### **Boys' Games**

A reminder that all boys need mouthguards and shin pads at school from next week as they begin hockey in PE lessons. Due to wet weather conditions, a towel should be included in games bags for showering after games. If they have their own stick they may bring this in too, providing it is clearly labelled. The school will provide hockey sticks if boys do not own their own.

### **Boys' Games Notices**

The Colts A are to meet at Hall Grove at 0830. Return time is expected to be 1230

Year 3 boys will have their inter house football matches on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March, starting at 1430. Parents are welcome to support.

### **Golf Course**

Unfortunately the school golf course is too wet to play at the moment and the Saturday morning lessons have been cancelled.

## **Senior School Open Mornings and Taster Days**

- Leighton Park School, Reading 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 8<sup>th</sup> March, 10<sup>th</sup> May, 7<sup>th</sup> June Tel: 0118 987 9600
- Luckley House School Enrichment/Taster Day for pupils considering their options for Year 9 entry in 2017 Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

Pupils in current Year 7 are invited to spend the day with their own Year 7 for a day of challenging, but fun lessons in Science, English and Maths, all following a murder mystery theme.

To book a place please contact Desni Ennis or Claire Bell, the Registrar, at Registrar@luckleyhouseschool.org or book online at [www.luckleyhouseschool.org/open-day-booking-form/](http://www.luckleyhouseschool.org/open-day-booking-form/)

## **FOHG**

### **FOHG Golf and Tennis**

FOHG golf and tennis starts again on Saturday morning. We have a few spaces available for new students to join this term:

Reception and Year 1	0900 - 1 space available
Years 2 and 3	0900 - 1 space available
Years 4+ Tennis	1200 - 3 spaces available
Years 4+ Golf	1200 - 1 space available

Please contact us on [fohgtennisgolf@gmail.com](mailto:fohgtennisgolf@gmail.com) if you would like your child to join the lessons.

### **FOHG Spring Ball - Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

With Christmas and New Year firmly in the rear view mirror, we are pleased to announce the highly anticipated Friends of Hall Grove Ball - *Classic Cars and Fabulous Frocks* - will be held at Mercedes-Benz World on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016. This is a wonderful venue and we anticipate a spectacular night! Flyers have been sent home today in the children's school bags (and a flyer attachment can be found on the website in the "Newsletter Attachment" section). Start getting your tables of 10 together - bookings will go live next Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January with full details to follow.

## **February Half Term Camps**

London Irish Rugby Camp

Venue: Hall Grove School

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February

Time: 0930 - 1530

Cost: £60

To book please call 01932 750 132 or visit [VMI.LONDON-IRISH.COWRUGBYCAMP](http://VMI.LONDON-IRISH.COWRUGBYCAMP)

## **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
- British Heart Foundation Flyer and Sponsorship Form
- FOHG Spring Ball

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## **Hall Grove Mums Golf Lessons**

Hall Grove has a long-standing relationship with The Berkshire and lessons for mums are given on a Monday and Tuesday at The Berkshire. There are currently a few available slots on a Monday at 1000 and a Tuesday at 0845. If you would like to improve your game or just starting out please contact B' Brash to find out more - [chrisandb@hotmail.com](mailto:chrisandb@hotmail.com) or 07527 624962.

## **Adult Dance Classes**

Mr Slape is pleased to offer a new course of partner dancing classes this term on a Thursday evening. Subject to interest there will be a class for complete beginners starting next Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 1930. Classes are great fun, with a delightful group of people already attending. Moves are easy to learn with no tricky or fast footwork. For more information or to book please email [jiveschool@hotmail.com](mailto:jiveschool@hotmail.com)

## **British Heart Foundation Sponsored Swim at the Camberley Arena Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

Camberley Swim is a fun family event that is returning for 2016. This event is suitable for all ages.

It is free to take part. You can choose to swim one length or set the bar higher and swim up to 50 lengths. Just set your own goal and help raise funds for life-saving research.

There are no age restrictions to participate but swimmers must be able to swim at least one length of a 25 metre pool.

Start Time - phased	1730 for the younger and slower swimmers (Under 11s) 1830 for the older and faster entrants
Location:	The Arena Leisure Centre Camberley
Parking:	Ample Parking at Leisure Centre.
What is required:	Participants may swim up to 50 lengths
Who can swim:	No age restriction - you only need to be able to swim at least 1 length.
Raffle:	A raffle will be held and drawn on the night of the swim

Flyer and sponsorship form are on the school website.

Support this event and raise funds for the British Heart Foundation, the Nation's Heart Charity.  
[www.bhf.org.uk](http://www.bhf.org.uk) Registered charity number: 225971

Contact Nigel Tottman for further details on 01276 502932 or email [Nigel.Tottman@ntlworld.com](mailto:Nigel.Tottman@ntlworld.com)