

Hall Grove School Newsletter



www.hallgrove.co.uk

15th January 2016

Edition No: 529

We hope parents will be pleased to see the copy of our Inspection report summary which has been taken home in envelopes via children today. Additional copies are available from the School Office, and the full report is on our website. Our thanks to the many parents who have written to congratulate us on the outcome of the Inspection, and for good support throughout the process.

In an attempt to improve the flow of traffic at the 1700 -1715 collections, Year 6 pupils will be walked up to the new viewing shelters by the tennis courts at 1700 and will wait for cars there. Year 6 parents are asked to park on the tennis courts at this time to leave the drive clear for Years 7 and 8 (1715). We will trial this scheme next week starting on Monday evening in the hope that it is an improvement for all concerned.

Charities Update

All collections have been distributed to: the Chennai Flood Appeal, Christian Aid, Cancer Research and Sebastian's Action Trust.

Slippery Paths

On frosty mornings the pathways around the school can be very slippery. Pupils and adults are advised to be cautious and wear suitable shoes. We do try to salt key areas but it is impossible to cover everywhere.

Reminder: Calendar Amendments and Additions

- Year 7 will be visiting the Tower of London on Tuesday 26th January, not 19th 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 21st March. Our Instrumental Competition Winners' Concert will now be on Wednesday 23rd March.

Mountain Bike Open Morning – Saturday 23rd January - Years 5, 6, 7 and 8

Hall Grove Mountain Bike Open Morning for Years 5 – 8 will be held on Saturday 23rd January. As outlined in the school calendar, there are two free taster sessions planned on our new bike trail: Years 5 and 6 cyclists are due to ride from 0900 to 1030 and our Years 7 and 8 mountain bikers can enjoy the trail between 1030 and 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.

Could those interested in attending let Mr Allams know (p.allams@hallgrove.co.uk).

Reminder: 2017 Term Dates

Spring 2017

Monday, 9th January – Wednesday, 29th March

Half Term: Saturday, 11th February – Sunday, 19th February (inclusive)

Summer 2017

Monday, 24th April – Wednesday, 12th July

Half Term: Saturday, 27th May – Sunday, 4th June (inclusive)

Pre-Prep Sports Day Friday 24th June
Sports Day (Years 3 – 8) Saturday 25th June

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 19th January
- 6AK Assembly Thursday 21st January
- 3JD Assembly Tuesday 26th January
- 7LS Assembly Thursday 28th January

Matrons' Note

Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease

There has been a case of hand, foot and mouth disease in Pre-Prep. We would like to reassure parents that this is a common viral infection that affects young children and presents as a cold with cough, non-itchy rash to hands and feet, temperature and mouth ulcers. The child will get better on their own without treatment and symptoms normally pass within 7 days. The advice is to keep your child comfortable at home until they are feeling well enough to return to school.

Application for Authorised Absence

With the long school holidays we do not advocate taking children out of school during term time. However, we do recognise that there are sometimes exceptional circumstances which necessitate this. All applications for authorised absence must be in writing and with as much notice as possible, using a form now available on the website (under the 'Parents' tab), or from the School Office. The Headmaster will consider all applications, bearing in mind the child's school attendance throughout the year, as well as the reason for the request. If the Headmaster does not authorise the request a reason will be given. We are obliged to inform the Local Education Authority of any concerning levels of absence.

Music

On Thursday morning we heard from some of our senior musicians and our Senior Strings and Harp ensemble (which includes two children from Years 3 and 4!). They gave us a little taste of what to expect in tonight's Scholars Concert, which is particularly to give some of our senior musicians an opportunity to perform, before a small audience, the pieces they will be performing over the next few weeks at some of our leading senior schools as they aim for Music Scholarships. We wish them all the very best for this, after all of the hard work and determination they have put in, not just recently but over the years as they've been learning.

Informal Lunchtime Concerts

Over the next few weeks we will have our first Informal Lunchtime Concerts of the term:

Friday 22nd January Piano Concert I
Friday 29th January Piano Concert II
Friday 5th February Strings
Friday 12th February Brass and Woodwind

If your children learn in school our instrumental teachers will put forward your children if they feel there is a piece ready (or perhaps one that still needs a little work but will be a useful experience to perform). Please contact Miss Post (l.post@hallgrove.co.uk) if your child learns outside school and has a piece – we are always delighted to hear our children play, whoever they may learn with.

Instrumental Competition Week, 14th – 18th March

Our Instrumental Competition is later this term and we have a prestigious panel of judges from some of the senior schools to which we regularly send children. The competition is open to all instrumentalists, regardless of ability, and

all children are strongly encouraged to participate. If your child learns an instrument in school, their teacher will submit an entry on their behalf. For those who have lessons outside school, the entry form will be available to download with next week's newsletter and must be submitted to Lizzie Post (l.post@hallgrove.co.uk) by Friday 12th February. Hopefully this amount of time will allow for discussion with your child's instrumental teacher and the selection of an appropriate piece of music with which your child feels comfortable. Late entries shall not be accepted because multiple changes to the schedules are unfair on parents taking time off work to see their children perform; please respect this and ensure that any entries arrive by the deadline. Many thanks for your understanding in this matter.

Ski Trip 2017

There has been a very positive response to next year's ski trip. We hope that the school will go to the same resort in Austria in 2017, departing on January 2nd and returning on January 8th. Please email Mr Tullett (i.tullett@hallgrove.co.uk) if you would like to reserve a place for your son or daughter.

Sports News

Congratulations to Danny Wessely and Nathalie Camp who have been selected to represent Berkshire AAA U13 at the Inter-County Cross Country Championships in Birmingham on 12th March. This is a real achievement for both pupils as this competition is one of the most prestigious national cross country events, for both juniors and seniors. It is where many very successful athletes such as Sebastian Coe, Mo Farah and Paula Radcliffe, to name a few, have competed.

Cross Country training started again this week with good turn outs on both Tuesday and Thursday mornings. This training is open to all children in Years 3 – 8. If you are keen to participate please meet Mr Tullett by the Sports Office at 0730 on either morning to take part. There is no need to register.

Two members of the Hall Grove Equestrian Team, Scarlett Creasey and Maddi Berenson, were out competing on behalf of their Pony Club on Sunday. Scarlett Creasey came 1st in her class and Maddi Berenson was part of the winning team in the team event. They both rode brilliantly so congratulations to them both on their success.

Girls' Games

The Year 4 girls had valuable tournament experience playing in the Hoe Bridge Netball tournament last Saturday. Throughout the morning they got better and better, Amelie Smith and Bernabo twins Matilda and Gisella impressing their coaches by playing consistently well throughout the morning.

The girls were busy on Wednesday afternoon winning 5 out of the 6 netball matches against Yateley Manor. The U12 and U11 A teams had convincing wins with Chloe Hill proving practice pays off, taking 20 shots and only missing 3! Well done Chloe! The U11s won all of their matches – Victoria Fearnhead and Grace Harvie both excelled in defence with interception after interception, and the U10s finished off a very positive afternoon with Lottie Hill and Catherine Clark playing consistently well.

On Thursday the very excited U9s had their House netball competition. Despite the bitterly cold wind the girls remained cheerful and competitive:

1st Kestrels, 2nd Eagles, 3rd Falcons

What an afternoon the Year 3s had with their first indoor netball fixture at Lightwater Leisure Centre against Coworth – they won all three matches and notable shooting performances were from Kiara Timm, Fleur Gilbert and Abbey Parker (Abbey scored all 5 of the A team's match goals and was unlucky not to score a sixth: it hit the rim, twirled round & popped out). Well done to all of the U8s who played in the fixture.

Girls' Games Notices

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

Wednesday 20th January – U12 and U13 netball teams. The Surrey Schools Netball tournament is being held at Priorsfield School, Priorsfield Road, Godalming GU7 2RH.

Saturday 23rd January – Please note ALL Year 6 girls will be expected to attend this tournament (from 0930 – 1200) to either play or help with the running of the event.

Please note Mrs Maxfield will be running netball camps over half term:

Years 3 – 5 – Monday 15th February

Years 5 – 8 – Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th February

All are at Lightwater Leisure Centre. Please e-mail to reserve a place (k.maxfield@hallgrove.co.uk).

Girls' forthcoming sports tours – following on from the highly successful netball tour to Barbados Mrs Maxfield is proposing taking the current Year 7 girls to The Jersey Games in the Easter 2017 holidays. The following October half term there will be an overseas trip on offer for the Years 7 and 8 girls. For more information or to register interest please contact k.maxfield@hallgrove.co.uk

Boys' Games

A reminder that all boys need mouthguards and shin pads at school as they play 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.

The boys had a block fixture v Yateley Manor on Wednesday with the 2nd XV played Pangbourne College. There were some excellent performances, including the 1st XV and U10 A and B teams.

The Under 9s played Yateley Manor and despite being a little rusty, there was some excellent running rugby. We look forward to seeing them make continued progress before matches next week against Lambrook.

Boys' Games Notices

Saturday 16th January – Rugby v Moulsham

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

Saturday 23rd January – Years 3 & 4 Rugby 'Home Nations' Tournament

Next Saturday we will see boys of Years 3 and 4 taking part in our Four Nations Tournament. Boys will be assigned to a nation next week and if your son can wear the appropriate colour of the home nation they are representing, it will add to the occasion. Coloured bibs will be available. Matches will start promptly at 0900 and the tournament should last one hour.

Reminder: 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

- Leighton Park School, Reading
23rd February, 8th March, 10th May, 7th June – 0118 987 9600
- Luckley House School
15th March, 0900 – 0118 974 3221
- Farnborough Hill (afternoons)
29th January, 29th April, 1330 – 01252 529811

FOHG

Reminder: FOHG Golf and Tennis

FOHG golf and tennis 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 fohgtennishgolf@gmail.com if you would like your child to join the lessons.

FOHG Ball - Saturday 19th March 2016

Classic Cars and Fabulous Frocks will be held at Mercedes-Benz World on Saturday 19th March. Tickets will be on sale from Friday 15th January to Friday 26th February. An online booking form with instructions has been sent separately through ClarionCall. If you wish to download the booking form including instructions to complete manually, this can be found on the school website under "Parents / Newsletter / Form Downloads". This is a wonderful venue and promises to be a spectacular night!

Reminder: February Half Term Camps

London Irish Rugby Camp

Venue: Hall Grove School

Date: 15th and 16th February

Time: 0930 - 1530

Cost: £60

To book please call 01932 750 132 or visit <http://www.london-irish.com/community/rugby-camps/92/>

SuperCamps

Activities for ages 3 - 14.

Venue: Hurst Lodge School, Ascot.

Date: Course dates vary between venues. Please check the website. Monday - Friday, 0800 - 1800.

Cost: From £28 per day.

To book please call 01235 467300 or visit www.supercamps.co.uk

Surrey Heath Museum Children's Activities

Fun and crafts around the museum.

Venue:

Surrey Heath Museum, Knoll Road, Camberley

Dates:

9th Feb - Toddler Tuesday: Be My Valentine

19th Feb - Fun Fridays: Fun With Photos

27th Feb - Toddlers' Saturday Spin-Offs: Daffodil Derby

For more information please call 01276 707 284, email: museum@surreyheath.gov.uk or visit www.surreyheath.gov.uk/museum

Newsletter Attachments

The following information is available on the school website:

- Weekly Music Rehearsal Schedule 2015 - 2016
- FOHG Ball Booking Form

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