

Hall Grove School Newsletter



www.hallgrove.co.uk

29th April 2016

Edition No: 540

On Thursday, May 5th we have an engineer from Balfour Beatty coming to talk to the pupils of Years 7 and 8 about the M3 widening project, a topic that forms part of the Common Entrance Geography syllabus. It will highlight some of the technical and economic challenges faced by the team and it should be very interesting. Parents are welcome to attend, the talk begins at 1615.

The Witches Audition (Year 7) – Thursday 5th May

Year 7 pupils are invited to audition in front of a small panel next Thursday morning. The children have explored some of the script in Drama lessons and audition material has been provided. The lead characters include: Boy, The Grand High Witch, Grandma and Bruno and there are a number of cameo roles including a Doctor, Lawyer, Doorman, Maid, Head Waiter and of course a healthy quota of bald-headed, hook-nosed witches! The lead characters will be required to make a commitment to break and lunchtime rehearsals and some substantial line learning. There may also be the odd weekend rehearsal but plenty of notice will be given. Interest is high and as always we will do our best to get lines to all those who are keen. We encourage all pupils to audition and there may also be the possibility to assign a small number of backstage crew and lighting technicians. The performance will be on the evening of Thursday 23rd June.

HM The Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration – Friday 13th May

This is a school event for the pupils, more details will be given next week.

Class Assemblies

All parents are welcome to attend their child's Class Assembly.

- 3AD Assembly Thursday 5th May. We look forward to seeing you in New Hall at 0830.
- 4DL Assembly Tuesday 10th May. We look forward to seeing you in New Hall at 0830.
- 1CA Assembly Wednesday 11th May. We look forward to seeing you in New Hall at 0855.
- 5GH Assembly Thursday 12th May. We look forward to seeing you in New Hall at 0830.

Reminder: NGS Garden Opening – Saturday 14th May

This is an event on behalf of the National Garden Scheme, a charity that supports several good causes. The school grounds and gardens will be open for viewing from 1400 to 1700. There are a variety of trails and walks, including the historic ice house in the garden of Field House, a woodland walk and the boating lake. The entry charge (all for the NGS charities) is £5 per adult, children free. Teas, live music and a selection of plants will be on sale. This is always a lovely event, do please tell your friends and come and support it. It is also an opportunity for extended family, grandparents, aunts and uncles, to see Hall Grove.

Our Concert Band and a number of individual musicians will perform throughout the afternoon. Exact timings are to be confirmed, and we would ask children involved to be in school uniform, ready to set up, at 1350 (location to be determined). We hope that all visitors will have a chance to listen to our children at some point in the afternoon.

Year 6 Battsborough Trip, 16th – 20th May

As per the calendar, the Year 6 children are looking forward to a full and rewarding programme down in Devon. Their trip runs from 16th - 20th May and a full itinerary and permission slip was emailed to parents yesterday week. Please return all reply slips to Mr Slape by Tuesday 3rd May.

Reminder: Open Morning – Thursday 26th May

An Open Morning is taking place on Thursday 26th May from 0930 - 1130. It is intended for prospective parents so we should be grateful if you would inform friends and work colleagues who may be interested in sending a child to Hall Grove one day.

Reminder: Matron's Notes

Hay Fever

For those children who suffer from hay fever, please could parents either make sure their children have taken medication before they come to school or that medication is sent in, clearly named, and handed to one of the Matrons.

Water Bottles

Please could all Middle and Upper School children have a named water bottle in school for match days.

Aerosol Deodorants

While older children may keep a small roll-on deodorant in their games bag, aerosols are strictly forbidden within the school.

Reminder: London to Brighton

Hall Grove is delighted to be supporting the British Heart Foundation by cycling the London to Brighton course in June this year. 12 members of staff and a number of ex-pupils have bravely signed up to ride in support of this charity.

The British Heart Foundation carries out vital work in highlighting the need to make heart health such a key focus as well as funding research and initiatives to improve health across the country. Through the generous donation of CPR 'dummies' the British Heart Foundation has enabled our own matrons to provide vital first aid training to our Year 8 students.

Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Your details are safe with JustGiving – they'll never sell them on or send unwanted emails. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to the charity, so it's the most efficient way to donate – saving time and cutting costs for the charity. Please follow this link to the JustGiving site to support our staff in raising money for this worthy cause:

[Hall Grove Just Giving Page](#)

Mr Marland would be very grateful if any of the parent body would be kind enough to lend him a road bike for the next two months as his penny-farthing is out of action!

The intrepid cyclists training hard and looking for your support are:

staff - Mr Tullett, Mr Lewis, Mr Slape, Miss Moore, Miss Gent, Mrs Langley, Mr Allams, Mr Toulson, Mr McLeod
ex-pupils - Jamie Parnell, David Parnell, Harry Quartermaine, Fraser Graham.

Music

Reminder: Informal Lunchtime Concerts

We are looking forward to hearing our musicians over the course of this term in our popular lunchtime informal concerts. These provide an opportunity for children to perform in front of an audience, and this can be an invaluable experience leading up to exams. Informal Concerts will be held on the following dates (NB Please note two changes of date to those printed in the school calendar):

Friday 6th May 1245 Informal Piano Concert I

Friday 27th May 1245 Informal Piano Concert II

Thursday 9th June 1245 Informal Vocal and Percussion Concert (**Changed from 13th May**)

Friday 17th June 1245 Informal Strings Concert

Thursday 23rd June 1245 Informal Brass & Woodwind (**Changed from 24th June**)

If your child learns an instrument outside school they are more than welcome to play in these concerts. Please email Miss Post (l.post@hallgrove.co.uk) if you would like them to participate at least a week in advance of the performance.

NPSO (National Preparatory School Orchestras)

Towards the end of this newsletter is more information on the Summer courses being run this year by the NPSO. These are excellent courses, which we can heartily recommend for improving musicianship, performing in an ensemble and for fun. The children will of course also be able to work with boys and girls from other schools and make new friends. We believe it will be an enjoyable and enriching musical experience.

Sports News

Athletics Training

Early morning Athletics training (Tuesday and Thursday 0730 - 0800) started positively this week with over 20 athletes in both sessions. This is open to all children in Years 3 - 8 who would like to take part. There is no need to sign up, just turn up at the track in games kit on these mornings.

Athletics v Eagle House Friday 6th May

Athletes will be selected and names posted on the board for a Year 3 & 4 combined team, Year 5 team, Year 6 team, Year 7 team and a Year 8 team. This is for both boys and girls; the teams will be selected by Wednesday. The event starts at 1600 and finishes at Eagle House at 1800. Parents are welcome to watch and take their children home from there, alternatively the minibus ETA at Hall Grove is 1830.

Tennis News

Congratulations to our Year 6 squad who enjoyed a friendly and successful opening fixture against Staines Prep School on Friday of last week. They managed to get through fourteen one set matches, winning 11 sets to 3 overall. Well done to Linus Bray and Adam Humpish who formed a particularly competitive partnership.

Tennis Club - Tuesdays

A reminder of the timings for our pre-booked rackets clubs is set out below. We feel it would be best for Pre-Prep children to be collected directly from the astro and ask that parents inform the coach when collecting their child. Any children not collected at the end of the session will then be escorted to TASC. Children in Middle and Upper School will be returned to the main drive for collection as per our existing arrangements.

1500 - 1545 Reception Tennis (collection from Astro)
1545 - 1630 Years 1 & 2 Tennis (collection from Astro)
1630 - 1730 Middle School
1730 - 1830 Upper School

Early Morning Tennis Training - Wednesdays 0735 - 0805

Over thirty children from the Upper School attended early morning tennis training this Wednesday. Interest in tennis is also very high at break times and there are some exciting internal tournaments opening for registration shortly. We have room for a few extra players in the Upper School Tennis Club on Tuesdays, so please contact the front office if your child would like to join.

Sailing

The Hall Grove Sailing team enjoyed a successful morning on the water, race training at the Queen Mary's Sailing Club. The coaches at the club were especially impressed with the ability of all the sailors and it bodes well for the IAPS competition at the end of May. Their next training session is on 9th May.

Swimming

We do hope formal swimming lessons can start from Pre-School to Year 5 in the week commencing 9th May, but this is weather permitting. Swimming for Years 6 to 8 will happen during their games sessions; please could all pupils in Years 3 - 8 have swimming kit (as per the school uniform list) at school in their games bags from 9th May.

Golf

Hall Grove played their first golf match of the term against Eagle House at Sunningdale Ladies on Thursday evening. We put out a strong team of 18 pupils and paired them up so we had 9 matches in total. After two hours of golf on a chilly and breezy evening the result was unanimous - Hall Grove won every match, winning 9 - 0.

Considering we lost this fixture last year it really is amazing to see the development of golf throughout the school. Well done to all who played; We look forward to the return fixture at Wellington after half term.

Hall Grove Garden Opening – Exhibition Cricket and Tennis

Please see below the list of children invited to play in the exhibition tennis and cricket for the Hall Grove Garden Opening on 14th May.

The cricket will be played on the main square and the tennis will be played on the single hard court and the two hard courts at the top of the drive. Parking will be on the paddock.

Tennis Josh Symons, Edward Wyatt, Manu Prasad, Aiden Emmitt, Oliver Griffiths, Harry Coxon, Jack Dale, Pierre Gathy, Grace Millar, Katie Walker, Anthonia Gathy, Ella King.

Cricket Elliot Sleep, Rocky Chapman, Freddie Brennen, Thomas Morley, Ryan Vandenberg, Shiv Takyar, Archie Graham, Max Moffat, Charlie Wyatt, Jack Armitage, Patrick Wall, William Stevens, Max Tenenbaum, Rhett Wooldridge, Ben Smith, Roan Macdonald, Shrey Rawal, Tano Parker, Toby Rofe, Linus Bray, Aikam Sihra, Archie Rhodes.

Girls' Games

The girls had some good rounders fixtures against Holme Grange, winning 4 out of the 6 matches. Both senior teams had emphatic wins with Katie Walker again voted best batter and Antonia Gathy best fielder. Grace Millar led the team with great enthusiasm and displayed some very confident batting skills. The Year 7 team was led by Amelie Wyatt who was voted best fielder and Madeline Berenson, fresh off the tennis tour, struck the ball with confidence to score a handful of rounders to seal their win. Players with notable performances from the U11 team were India Underwood and Phoebe Thunder-Rogers who struck up a very effective partnership at backstop and 1st base to get several Holme Grange players out; Jessica Gunning again showed her fielding prowess and Jasmine Wyles and Pippa Marlow both batted really well. Thank you to a few of the U10s who were gracious enough to help the opposition out (who were short on numbers) and well done to Scarlett Young who again had an exceptional game fielding and Lyla Smith who hit the ball quite some distance.

Girls' Games Notices

Wednesday 4th May Rounders v St Andrew's Woking

Match time amendments: U11 B and U10 B will now be 1400. 2nd XI will now be 1445. Please note the anticipated return time to Hall Grove is 1630.

Thursday 5th May Rounders v St Andrew's Woking

U9 A and U8 A matches will now take place at St Andrew's Woking at 1430. The U9 B match will be at Hall Grove as published at 1430.

Boys' Games

Cricket v Feltonfleet

The boys enjoyed a block set of cricket fixtures v Feltonfleet on Wednesday, winning 3 and losing 4. Unfortunately the games at Valley End and Effingham Cricket Club were cancelled so these boys enjoyed a net session in the cage at Valley End.

The 1st XI lost their game by 10 wickets, George Freeman scoring 34 runs. The 2nds had a very close game and lost by 18 runs, with Edward Wyatt taking 2 wickets. The Colts A and B won well with Shrey Rawal (28 not out), Archie Rhodes (26) and Ben Turnor (2-9) starring for the A team and Oliver Griffiths (30 not out) for the B team. Although the Under 10 teams all lost, Fred Beer took 3 wickets for 0 runs in 2 overs for the Under 10 A team.

Boys' Games Notices

Saturday 30th April - Cricket v Woodcote House at 1400

All matches start at 1400

The 1st XI and Colts C are to meet at Hall Grove at 1330.

The 4th XI and Colts A Teams are to meet at Hall Grove at 1330 for departure to Woodcote House by minibus.

Wednesday 4th May Cricket v St George's Windsor

The 4th XI match will be played at Windsor Cricket Club, which is over the road from St George's School.

Saturday 7th May – Year 7 & 8 House Matches

Please note that Year 7 & 8 boys cricket House matches will start at 0930, not at 1000 as advertised in the calendar.

Reminder - Cricket bags

Please note that boys in Years 5 – 8 are allowed to bring in their own cricket equipment for match days only. Any cricket kit should be left under the shelter behind the pavilion and must be clearly labelled with your child's name. Please do not feel you need to buy your child any extra kit, the school provides all the necessary protective equipment and bats for matches.

Friends of Hall Grove (FOHG)

Reminder: Golf & Tennis

There are spaces available on the Saturday FOHG Golf & Tennis. If any of your children would be interested please email fohgtennisgolf@gmail.com for further information. Thank you.

Fiona & Sheila

0900 - 1030	Year 2/3	2 spaces	Golf & tennis
1030 - 1115	Year 2/3	2 spaces	Golf & tennis
1030	Year 4	1 space	Tennis
1115	Year 4	1 space	Golf
1200	Year 4 & above	3 spaces	Golf
1200	Year 4 & above	2 spaces	Tennis

Senior School Open Mornings

The Royal Senior School	5 th May	01428 603052
St John's School, Leatherhead	6 th & 7 th May	01372 373 000
Farnborough Hill	7 th May	01252 529811
Tonbridge School	7 th May	01732 304297
Reed's School, Cobham	7 th May, 10 th September, 12 th November	01932 869001
Warminster School	7 th May	01985 210160
Queen Anne's School	7 th May, 10 th June & 17 th September	0118 918 7300
Leighton Park School, Reading	10 th May, 14 th June	0118 987 9600
- Taster Day for Years 6 & 7 Seeking Year 9 Entry	23 rd June	
The Marist Senior School	11 th May	01344 624291
Stonar School	14 th May	01225 701 741
King Edward's, Witley	14 th May & 23 rd June	01428 682850
Luckley House	9 th June	0118 974 3221
- Year 5 Taster Day	23 rd June	

Newsletter Attachments

The following information is available on the school website:

- Weekly Music Rehearsal Schedule 2015 - 2016
- Wellington Sports Academy 2016
- CFC Soccer Schools
- VECC Summer Half Term Coaching Course

May Half Term & Summer Holiday Clubs, Camps & Courses

VECC Summer Half Term Coaching Course, 31st May to 3rd June

Are you looking to improve your cricket skills? Valley End Cricket Club has the course and coaches for you! Contact James Young jamesyoung100@btopenworld.com or call 07885 235703. Flyer attached.

CFC Foundation Soccer Schools at Licensed Victuallers' School, Ascot, 31st May to 3rd June

A leading provider in the UK; safe, fun-based learning; qualified, experienced coaches; individual tailored sessions. Book online now at chelseafc.com/foundation or for further details please contact Simon Jackson – email simon.jackson@chelseafc.com or call 07720 968635. Flyer attached.

NPSO (National Preparatory School Orchestras) Summer Courses, 17th to 23rd July

Our courses at Wellington College last Summer created an inspiring, invigorating and enjoyable atmosphere that culminated in performances of music by, amongst others, Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, Shostakovich, and Malcolm Arnold.

Please visit our website www.npsco.co.uk where you will find more information about courses this coming Summer, a downloadable handbill, and video highlights from our last concert. Specifically you will find details of the Symphony Orchestra Course, conducted by Adrian Lucas, and the Training Orchestra Course for the less experienced, conducted by Peter Davis. With a team of expert instrumental specialists we will again create a vibrant and invigorating atmosphere of shared music-making. The two residential courses will be held in the picturesque setting of Wellington College, Berkshire, from 17th - 23rd July 2016. We are very keen to attract talented young musicians and will primarily concentrate on the 8 - 16 age range. All will benefit from the quality of music and the most advanced will be offered specialist masterclasses and chamber music tuition.

Both courses will have a team of experienced and fully qualified pastoral staff to ensure that children are properly cared for at all times and to encourage them to take full advantage of the wonderful recreational facilities of Wellington College. Bursaries for these courses, if required, may be applied for from both the IAPS Charitable Trust and the Westminster Chamber Orchestra Charitable Trust.

Wellington Sports Academy 2016, 25th to 28th July

Wellington College hosted another incredibly successful Sports Academy last Summer and they are delighted that Enjoy Learn Perform are returning with the academy again this year, from 25th - 28th July 2016.

The Academy is open to boys and girls aged 9 to 15 years old (returning to school in September 2016 into Years 5 - 10).

The focus for the academy is not only on sport but also developing leadership and character throughout, as well as experiencing life at Wellington. There are a limited number of boarding places available but they have expanded their day places, due to popular demand. Bookings forms are to be sent to info@enjoylearnperform.com and are made on a 'first come, first served' basis.

All pupils will be offered exceptional coaching in Rugby, Hockey, Golf, Netball, Cricket or Football. The Head Coaches (who themselves have represented their country in their sport) will coach each child on a daily basis and be assisted by the high level coaching staff from Wellington College.

For more information or to book a place, please visit: www.enjoylearnperform.com or complete the attached form and return to info@enjoylearnperform.com. NB - Unfortunately Wellington College cannot accept bookings or payments.

Ultimate Activity Camps LVS Ascot, 18th July to 26th August

Activity day camps for 4 to 14 year olds. Book online www.ultimateactivity.co.uk or call 0844 870 7077. Flyer attached.

Forres Summer Camps, 27th July to 4th August

Forres Holiday Camps are run for prep school children in the Summer. These are brilliantly organised and would be much enjoyed by Hall Grove boys and girls. For further information please contact 01865 766155 or info@forresholidays.org or collect a flyer from the School Office. Applications have to be made soon because places do fill up.

Raising Funds for the Berkshire Cancer Centre

Alex Swanson, father of Jamie (Year 4) and Emily (Year 2), is attempting a 100 mile run this weekend along the Thames path between London and Oxford. He's aiming to break 24 hours and is raising funds for the Berkshire Cancer Centre in memory of his father-in-law, Jack, who sadly died at New Year.

If you are able to support Alex tomorrow, the link to his Just Giving webpage is:

http://www.justgiving.com/Alex-Swanson100?utm_id=26

Reminder: Adult partner dance evenings – Complete beginners welcome!

Mr Slape is running a short course of five dance evenings this term on the following Thursdays: May 5th, May 12th, May 26th, June 9th. He has at least two new couples joining a group who are enormous fun and very welcoming. Please email d.slape@hallgrove.co.uk for more details or to book your place. The evenings are great fun and a super social night out. Complete beginners are welcome from 1930 so don't miss the opportunity!

3rd Reminder: Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

We are still collecting the Sainsbury's Active Kids 2016 vouchers which are currently being issued for every £10 spent in stores, online and at fuel stations. We would be grateful if you would send in any vouchers that you receive.

Reminder: Wanted – Sports Kit for South Africa

Wanted - used girls/boys football boots, trainers and football kit to send to South Africa to support a local football coach and club in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. The coach has set up a football club for children aged 5 - 16 but many of the younger children have no kit and play barefoot or in flip flops. Unfortunately parents are unable to provide the kit for them as they are extremely poor and live in the local township.

The Freeman Family (parents to George in Year 8) will take any donations with them when they visit in October. In addition Rotary Woking is looking into other ways of transporting kit. It would be helpful if the kit is reasonably clean. Please tie boots together or place in a plastic bag.

A bin/box will be left under the shelter next to the cricket pavilion and will be emptied frequently.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Sailing

Felix Thomas, Year 5, sails an Optimist all around the country and is part of the Hall Grove team this year so Mrs Thomas thought it might be a good opportunity to promote information regarding local sailing clubs and encourage people to try out sailing:

Burghfield Sailing Club Open Day (near Reading)

Join us on Saturday 21st May from 1200 to 1600 at Burghfield Sailing Club, Theale. It's an ideal opportunity to have a go at sailing in a variety of different boats, sail with some of the UK's top helms, have a go at paddle boarding, ride on a powerboat and generally have a great time! Food and drink is available throughout the day. No experience or equipment is needed and sailing is suitable for all ages and abilities including those with disabilities. Bring a change of clothes and a towel in case you get wet! For more details please visit our web site www.burghfieldsailing.org. We look forward to seeing you.

New Flotilla at Datchet

[DWSC](#) is starting a new Optimist Flotilla in April 2016 that will make the most of the excellent facilities and sailing water available at Queen Mother Reservoir. Flotilla activities mostly take place on Sunday mornings. The plan is to have activities for beginners (and those with a couple of weeks experience) and more experienced racers. The emphasis will be on regular sailing in a relatively informal environment. The Optimist Flotilla is open to children, who have their own Optimist. Please contact datchetoptimists@gmail.com for more information.