

Hall Grove School Newsletter



www.hallgrove.co.uk

16th September 2016

Edition No: 552

What an amazing week of weather! The last blast of summer enabled us to put on a delightful mini-performance of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” in the gardens last night. Under a full moon, with the oak tree canopy beautifully lit by flaming torches, Year 8 boys and girls scampered and cavorted as Oberon, Puck, Snout, Bottom, Thisbe, Pyramus and assorted fairies. It was a lovely evening.

Meanwhile the school has enjoyed celebrating the magical story-telling of Roald Dahl this week, and there was a superb selection of costumed characters in school today.

Our parent evenings have been very well attended. We meet Year 3 and 4 parents on Monday. These gatherings do help get the school year off to a productive start.

The Surrey Cup match played on Top Field this afternoon, with a 3 – 1 win for the 1st XI, finished this busy week.

OurPact Parental Control - iOS and Android Devices

OurPact is a parental control app that enables parental involvement in children's device habits through Internet and application blocking. OurPact allows parents to manage their child's screen time at any time, and from anywhere. By pairing your family's iPads, iPhones, and iPods to OurPact, you have the power to manage your entire family's screen time and device use from one powerful application.

It's an excellent app and one that is highly recommended for Hall Grove parents to help manage and teach responsibility through technology.

For more information visit: <http://ourpact.com/>

Term Dates 2017-2018

Autumn Term 2017

Monday 4th September – Friday 15th December

Half Term: Saturday 21st October – Sunday 5th November (incl.)

Spring Term 2018

Monday 8th January – Thursday 29th March (30th March is Good Friday)

Half Term: Saturday 10th – Sunday 18th February (incl.)

Summer Term 2018

Monday 23rd April – Friday 6th July

Half Term: Saturday 26th May – Sunday 3rd June (incl.)

Reminder: After School Clubs

All After School Clubs with the exception of Judo, which started today, will commence Monday 19th September. This **includes** Chelsea Football Club who are now starting at the same time as the other clubs and will also finish on Friday 9th December.

Footsteps Dance Classes

Footsteps dance classes commence on Tuesday 20th September, run by Fiona Stein. The classes will be taking place in the Dining Hall and, for those enrolled, you are asked to collect your child after their class from Miss Stein on the drive. Beginners' Tap finishes at 1605, Pre-Primary Tap finishes at 1655 and Grade 1 Tap finishes at 17.45 on a Tuesday. Beginners' Ballet finishes at 1610, Beginners' Jazz finishes at 1705 and Grade 2 Tap finishes at 1800 on a Thursday. All Reception parents please note children are to be collected from the drive by the main school building, not The Barn.

Dance uniform, which is compulsory for all Footsteps pupils, will be available for you to purchase in 1GE, Miss Exelby's class room, on Wednesday 21st September from 1600. Please note payment is by cash or cheque only. If you wish to pre-order dance shoes in advance please email Miss Stein at Fiona@footsteps.biz.

Reminder: Parents' Briefings

It is our custom to host Parents' Briefings early in the Autumn Term when the staff are introduced and an outline of the year's work is given. Parents should **NOT** bring children to school for these meetings.

Informal drinks will be served from 1830 and the briefings will take place at 1900 as follows:

Year 3 and Year 4 Monday 19th September New Hall

Individual parent-teacher consultations have been arranged for later in the Autumn Term.

Class Assemblies

The children of 6HT and 7MW 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.

6HT Assembly Thursday 22nd September

7MW Assembly Thursday 29th September

Reminder: Macmillan Coffee Morning – Friday 23rd September

Please join us in the Pavilion for a lovely social gathering over tea, coffee and cakes from 0800 until 1030. Home-grown produce and home-made cakes are welcome for sale.

Catrina Graham

Second Hand Uniform Sale at Macmillan Coffee Morning – Friday 23rd September

There will be a second hand uniform sale to raise funds for Macmillan Coffee Morning, the biggest fundraising event for people facing cancer, on Friday 23rd September, 0800 until 1030 in the Pavilion. Cash or cheque payments only please. Should you wish to donate any school uniform, please deliver direct to the Pavilion on Thursday. Thank you.

Reminder: Senior Schools Fair – Saturday 24th September

All parents are welcome at our Senior Schools Fair on Saturday 24th September, from 1000 – 1200 in New Hall. There will be between 16 and 20 schools in attendance, day and boarding, local and further afield.

Individual and Sibling Portraits – Friday 30th September

Gilman and Soame, The School Photographer, has been booked to come on Friday 30th September to take individual and sibling group photographs of the children. Please make sure that the children are looking smart on the day with the boys wearing their uniform shirt, tie and blazer and the girls in their Winter uniform.

Hall Grove Staff and Parents Social Road Ride – Saturday 15th October

Mr Tullett and Mr Lewis are delighted to announce the first social road ride for staff, parents and other friends of the school. If you are a cyclist with reasonable experience of riding on the road then do join us on Saturday 15th October, meeting at Hall Grove at 0830. We intend to head out towards Windsor Great Park, following a relatively flat route with one or two minor inclines along the way. The route will definitely include a stop for coffee and we will be back at Hall Grove by 1230. We expect to average 16-17mph along the way. Please email i.tullett@hallgrove.co.uk or t.lewis@hallgrove.co.uk if you are interested to give us an idea of numbers.

Reminder: Hall Grove Open Morning – Thursday 20th October

There will be an Open Morning taking place on Thursday 20th October from 0930 to 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.

Year 8 BEVAP Project

As part of the Year 8 BEVAP project, Mrs Allams and her Textiles crew are making an urgent appeal for unwanted jeans! Please dig deep and send in any denim jeans, skirts or shirts by Tuesday 22nd September to Mrs Allams' classroom. We are hoping you will be delighted when you see how we are upcycling them on Grandparents' Afternoon. All for a very good cause too, as proceeds will be going to David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation Charity. Many, many thanks for your help!

2nd Reminder: Forthcoming Battsborough Trips – **Please note amendment for Year 8 Trip*

Year 7	Monday 19 th – Friday 23 rd September 2016
Year 8	Friday 11 th – Sunday 13 th November
Year 5	Monday 6 th – Friday 10 th March 2017
Year 4	Tuesday 2 nd – Friday 5 th May 2017
Year 6	Monday 15 th – Friday 19 th May 2017
Year 8	Monday 26 th June – Friday 30 th June 2017 * (This trip is optional)

3rd Reminder: Prize Giving Cups and Awards

If your child was presented with a cup at Prize Giving, please could you have the cup engraved in the same format as the previous winner and return it to the School Office by half term. Thank you.

MUSIC

Music Theory Clubs

Music Theory Clubs for Years 3 – 5 (Mondays 1630 – 1730) and Years 6 – 8 (Mondays 1730 – 1830) are being offered this term, led by Mr Ledger and supported by Mr Waltho. For many children the study of music theory is what they feel least confident with, no matter how well they make progress in their performing. It is a requirement that children pass Grade 5 theory when they want to go beyond this in their instrument, and this is often quite daunting when they have not previously attempted any music theory exams.

Mr Ledger will be taking the children through gently, all together, so that they can really see and understand the links between their playing and the theory behind it. For anybody learning an instrument, these clubs would be of great benefit and we strongly recommend them. There are still places available in both clubs, which start this coming Monday – booking should be made online via the portal, but please email Mr Waltho (j.waltho@hallgrove.co.uk) if there are any problems or questions with this.

Informal Lunchtime Concerts

Next week we have the first of our Informal Lunchtime Concerts, Piano Concert I. This will be on the New Hall stage, starting at 1250, and is intended to be a friendly, supportive environment in which to perform pieces of any level. A big thank you to all who help to make these concerts happen; we are appreciative of the children's work and preparation, and the patience of all as we try to include everybody we would like to each week. If you would like your child to be included in one of our lunchtime concerts, please speak to their instrumental teacher initially. Our own peripatetic staff will let us know of children they consider ready. If your child learns an instrument outside school, we would still be delighted to hear them perform – please email Miss Post (l.post@hallgrove.co.uk) to let us know, by the Sunday evening before the concert so that we can then put the program together and confirm performances. Over this term we have more Informal Concerts coming up:

Friday 14 th October	Piano Concert II
Friday 11 th November	Piano Concert III
Friday 18 th November	Strings and Wind
Friday 25 th November	Vocal and Percussion
Friday 2 nd December	Wind (Brass and Woodwind)

Reminder: Ensembles

All of our ensembles, apart from Junior Strings, have started rehearsing this week and a full schedule of ensemble rehearsals is available on the website. If your child is unable to be at a rehearsal (including Choristers and Hall Grove Choir), or is running late, we would appreciate notice as soon as possible (01276 470008). We do expect children to attend all rehearsals (unless unable to) to enable them to prepare for concerts and performances throughout the school year. Failure to attend regularly without a valid reason may mean your child is unable to perform in an event.

Reminder: Practice Club

From 1630 – 1830 Monday to Friday children are able to practise their instruments in one of our practice rooms with supervised specialist help (Mr Waltho, Mr Heffer or Miss Post). This is open to all children in Years 3 – 8, but is particularly for those preparing for an instrumental exam or looking to compete for a senior school award at some point with any musical component. We all know how hard it can be for a child to find the motivation at the end of a long school day, after tea, homework, a bit of down-time and so on, so we would like to support instrumental improvement here at school, before children come home. If you would like to book your child in for a half-hour slot (a maximum of two slots during the week due to high demand, all subject to availability) please contact Lizzie Post (l.post@hallgrove.co.uk). Children will need to be collected from the Music area so that we are able to give our full attention to the next group of children. Due to the high demand we are also currently unable to offer this below Year 3.

To add – Informal Concert, Music Theory

SPORTS

A reminder to parents that www.hallgrovesport.co.uk is the site for all Hall Grove sports fixtures. It is kept up to date. If there are any last minute changes to fixtures, a ClarionCall message will be sent out.

Girls' Games

The girls had a busy week with the seniors competing against Lord Wandsworth and continuing their 100% unbeaten record to date! Lucia Jackson scored a hat trick for the first team and the 2nd VII had a resounding victory with India Underwood and Jessica Gunning proving to be a formidable partnership. Congratulations to Sharen Chu and Mia Kadyan who represented Hall Grove in their first senior girls' fixture – both did very well. The U11 and U10 teams had very challenging matches against St Piran's, a school with a strong reputation for sport with many of their girls attending external sports clubs outside school. We lost all four matches. Yun Yun Lai worked exceptionally hard in the U10 A team and Tiggy Tutt played her inaugural match for the U10 A team, helping to control the depth and breadth of the team against an outstanding St Piran's team. Isabel Harvie was voted girl of the game for the U10 B's; Isobel worked incredibly hard covering the pitch as a mid-field. Congratulations to Jazmine Sherrington who represented Hall Grove for the first time in the U10 Bs as goal keeper. Tabitha Tonkin's work ethic was exceptional in the U11 A team and Lyla Smith, who was kept particularly busy in goal, was fearless. The U11 B team had a tightly contested match with Ella Baxendale having an outstanding game in defence, clearing many balls with intelligence. The team were very unlucky to lose 1-0 having all the play.

Girls' Games Notices

Saturday 24th September

Please be aware Years 4 and 5 girls will be expected to participate in the Junior House matches. Please meet Mrs Maxfield at the astro by 0930.

U11 A and B Girls' Hockey triangular v Downsends and Hawthornes

Please meet Mrs Tutt at Hall Grove no later than 0800, estimated return time is 1230.

Please can we remind parents that if they are taking another child home from a match they must have prior permission from that child's parents that they consent to the arrangement.

Boys' Games

Football

v Hoe Bridge

On Wednesday the 14 teams took on Hoe Bridge in what is always a competitive fixture. It was a warm day with the pitches in great condition and there was great parental support. The senior teams played well, the 2nd XI and 4th IX winning their games and the 5th IX earning a well-deserved draw. The 1st XI and 3rd XI lost their games 4 – 2 but this does not do justice to the performance by both teams. The signs are encouraging for the rest of the season. The Middle School teams struggled and Hoe Bridge were the stronger school on the day but it's early in the season and there were certainly encouraging signs by many players.

v Aldro and Feltonfleet

The junior school teams played in a small-sided triangular fixture on Thursday against Aldro and Feltonfleet. The U9 teams travelled to Aldro and had mixed results across the teams. The A and B teams performed well but the C and D teams had a tougher day and must not lose heart. The U8 teams in their first fixture played very well indeed and had a very pleasing set of results winning 3 and drawing 2 of their 6 matches. A very positive start to the U8s football season.

Surrey Cup Football

A really exciting match played this afternoon in the first round against Northcote Lodge. Hall Grove won 3 – 1. Well done!.

Boys' Games Notices

Saturday 17th September

Parkside Football Tournament

1st VI – please meet Mr Tomlinson at Parkside at 1230, matches start at 1300.

Football v Woodcote

2nd XI and Colts A VI – please meet at Hall Grove at 1315. Kick-off is 1400.

FOHG

FOHG 80s Disco – 14th October 2016

Tickets are now on sale for £25 per person and are selling quickly, so please don't delay in buying yours! Bookings can be made online and payments should be made to the FOHG Events bank account, sort code 20-81-11 account number 83258645.

Reminder: FOHG Saturday Morning Golf & Tennis Club

Lessons to be held on the following dates (please note there will be no lessons during the half-term break):

- 17th September – 15th October
- 12th November – 10th December
- 8th October will be a golf competition in the afternoon

The club is organised by volunteer parents working closely with Mr Charles Gold, PGA Golf Professional and teacher at Hall Grove, and Megan from Jet Tennis at Bagshot. The aim is for the children to gain skills in these sports to be ready for the school programme in later years.

Building on the success of our Middle and Upper school golf and tennis programmes, the FOHG Saturday Golf & Tennis Club has been designed for the Pre-School and Years 3 & 4. There is an open class for years 4 and above at 1200 for tennis or golf lessons.

For further information please contact FOHGtennisgolf@gmail.com

Senior School Open Morning / Days

Queen Anne's, Caversham

Saturday 17th September

0118 918 7300

Lord Wandsworth College	Saturday 24 th September	01256 862201
King Edward's, Witley	Saturday 24 th September	01428 686727
Pangbourne	Saturday 24 th September	0118 984 2101
Leighton Park School	Saturday 1 st October	0118 987 9609
Tudor Hall	Saturday 1 st October	01295 756263
Farnborough Hill Open Afternoon	Friday 7 th October, Tuesday 15 th November	01252 529811
St George's, Ascot	Saturday 8 th October, Thursday 13 th October	01344 629920
Luckley House School, Wokingham	Saturday 8 th October	0118 978 4175
ACS Egham	Saturday 8 th October	acs-schools.com/opensdays

Newsletter Attachments

The following information is be available on the school website:

- FOHG Saturday Morning Golf and Tennis Club
- Young Archaeology Club at Chertsey Museum
- Weekly Music Rehearsal Timetable

* * * * *

Young Archaeology Club at Chertsey Museum – Autumn Dates

Please see flyer on the school website.