

Hall Grove School Newsletter



www.hallgrove.co.uk

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It has been a busy week with the Outdoor Learning Conference on Tuesday, an Open Day on Thursday and the Country Fair today, all in addition to class outings, school matches and other events.

The conference, the first of its kind, was highly successful. Comments from delegates described the day as being 'inspirational'. We gathered some excellent speakers from the world of outdoor education, ranging from a University academic to some of the leading practitioners in the country. The school grounds proved to be the perfect setting and our woods and fields lent themselves to a range of demonstrations and activities. There was everything from wood whittling and outdoor cooking to wild camping and tree climbing. A number of residential activity centres exhibited, including our own Battisborough House. Visitors came from schools across the country. We hope the event will become a regular fixture in the Hall Grove calendar. A film of the day's activities appears on our website and can be seen at <https://vimeo.com/188119417>

Our Country Fair was as fun and eccentric as ever. Working gun dogs, racing pigeons, horses, ducks, goats and sheep all competed for the children's attention alongside the stalls and the tea tent, and the many visitors enjoyed the afternoon hugely. Our thanks to all those who supported in any way.

Tatler Magazine

We were delighted to be included once again in the Tatler Schools Guide this year. Whilst there is a considerable amount of 'tongue in cheek' in the way that each school is profiled, the comments written about Hall Grove are very favourable. A complimentary copy has been sent home in report envelopes to the parents of children in Years 3 to 8 and additional copies have been ordered for the Pre-Prep. Whilst these guides should never be the sole source of information for parents considering where their children might move on to, it may be of interest to read about those senior schools with which Hall Grove maintains closest links.

School Catering

There will be some major changes to our catering after Half Term as the management of our team moves from Connect Catering to Thomas Franks. We take this opportunity to thank Connect for great commitment to Hall Grove over a number of years, and we wish Thomas Franks a fruitful partnership with the school. Children can expect to see new food options and a different style of service when they return after the holiday.

Mental Health Talk from Mr Dick Moore

Last Friday we welcomed Mr Moore to Hall Grove. We were delighted that a number of parents were able to attend and hear him speak on the subject of Mental Health in Schools. The talks were incredibly informative, very moving, but also inspiring. We have received very positive feedback from children and parents, as well as our own staff. Whilst there is no real substitute for hearing Mr Moore speak in person, we hope that the links below will act as a summary of some topics covered. Presentation slides are available on our website.

Mr Moore's TEDx talk, plus two films used during the talks:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wstksuaSMD4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=omBfg3UwkYM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z7dLU6fk9QY>

Parking on the Tennis Courts

Please remember these are sports courts used for Pre-Prep play times and principally used for our games lessons. Parking is available until 0855 each morning, therefore please ensure your car is removed by this time. If the gates are closed please do not open them as the courts have been set up for a games session.

Potential Scholarship Candidates

Year 8 parents in particular are asked to be aware of looming scholarship deadlines at various senior schools. Anyone considering entering their child for an award is asked to discuss this with Mr Lewis (01276 470007) if they have not already done so. The general practice is for parents to complete the relevant forms and leave them with Mr Lewis who will collate the various references and information before passing them on to senior schools.

Open Morning

The Autumn Open Morning was very well attended with lots of families visiting the school (35 in total) eager to register their children on our waiting list. The feedback from the visitors was entirely positive and Hall Grove gave a very good account of itself. Our thanks to all the boys and girls of Years 7 and 8 who acted as guides.

Class Assemblies

The children of 3VB and 6DS 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.

3VB Assembly Tuesday 15th November

6DS Assembly Tuesday 17th November

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 Friday 11th November. Thank you.

Remembrance Service – Friday 11th November

This special Assembly is always much enjoyed by parents. It begins at 1030 in New Hall.

MUSIC

Informal Concert

As a showcase of some of our singing, the children in Years 1 – 5 were delighted to hear a short concert, given by Year 3, Year 2, Hall Grove Choir and Girls' Choir. They taught us about the Natural World – *Down in my Allotment*, *Harvest Time is Here* and *All You Can Eat* (an 80s-style rap); they told us about Charlie's Chocolate Factory (*I've Got a Golden Ticket* and *The Oompa-Loompas*); they told us about friendship and home (*Count on Me* and *Above the Sea*). This was a rough and ready performance for the children to hear some of what others are doing. Later in the term the children will be singing in Nativities, Christmas shows and our Carol Service (Choristers).

ABRSM Exams

This term's ABRSM exams will take place on **Saturday 3rd December** on the New Hall Stage. The final timetable has now been sent out to the relevant parents, and will also be available to see on the music noticeboard at school. We would ask that all children arrive at least 20 minutes before their exam, and go to the Music Office to warm up.

SPORTS

Boys' Games

Football – Wednesday

Wednesday saw the final football fixture of the season for most of the boys with matches against Elstree. It has been a long time since we have competed against each other and the afternoon was played in good spirit. There were a number of tough matches for the second week running and our opponents definitely came out on top, winning the majority of the matches.

The U10 C and D teams deserve plenty of credit for their performances, with two good wins. They showed good progress from the start of the year and it was a lovely way to finish their half term. The Colts C team battled to a 0-0 draw in a game that could have gone either way and the 2nd XI, for the second time in a week, came out with what looked like a comprehensive defeat despite being the better team and having enough chances to win the game.

The 1st XI will continue their football after the half term break with their Surrey Cup Plate Semi Final on the horizon. They lost narrowly on Wednesday to a good Elstree side who kept the ball well. The boys started brightly and took a deserved lead after about 10 minutes. Our guests then dominated the remainder of the first half and the score at the break was 1-1. The second period started as the first had ended and Elstree raced into a 3-1 lead. This was the moment the boys rolled their sleeves up and decided that the game was still there to win. The boys played a lot higher up the pitch pressing Elstree with more purpose and it seemed like the last quarter was spent in their half. Chances came and went and with a little more composure, there might well have been a different result. A late goal with a minute left made it a tense finale but Elstree hung on to win 3-2.

Football – Thursday

Staines Prep were the visitors on Thursday afternoon for fixtures with the Under 8s and 9s. There was plenty of effort on show and some good football played on all the pitches.

The Under 8s continued their fine form with wins for the A and B teams, and the Cs and Ds both had exciting draws. The As and Bs have now both won 5 and drawn 1 of their 6 matches, a fantastic effort! The loudest cheer, however, goes to the D team when they scored their goal, and there were plenty of celebrations to match!

The Under 9 A team won their match 4-1 and Mr Gold was delighted to see the boys trying to pass the ball around. There is plenty of potential in the team and they look a quality footballing side when they let the ball do the work. Staines won the other three Under 9 matches.

Boys' Games Notices

Rugby

The rugby season starts after half term; it is essential that your child has their mouth guard in school for both training and matches.

Girls' Games

The girls have had a marvellous six weeks of term, working hard during their games lesson and taking on board new skills and tactics. This week we enjoyed a block fixture against Edgeborough – the 1st team and U12s put up a really good fight against very strong opposition. Sophie Lees, the 1st VII goal keeper, made some very impressive saves and, defending solidly, Emily Myers, India Underwood and Scarlett Creasey worked hard to ensure the score line was not too drastic. Yasmin van der Zijl scored two remarkable goals and Jessica Gunning was solid in defence, the U12s were very unlucky not to have a draw.

Lily Hardy had a good game in goal for the U11s, with Catherine Clarke solid at the back and both Scarlett Young and Libby Lomas showing real grit and determination. All of the Year 5 girls participated in matches with the As showing flair, passing the ball well, attacking the goal keeper and tracking back to defend – Sofia Bandosz had an awesome 2nd half.

On Thursday the U9 A and B teams travelled away and had two splendid wins, both teams consolidating their match play and playing as a team. Indiana Leech scored a sensational goal for the A team with Millie Barlow having a strong game in defence for the B team and Carys Barnard scoring two wonderful goals.

The Year 3 girls relished getting to grips with competitive matches and are showing some fabulous sporting attributes; all should be commended for their effort and performance. The A team narrowly lost in a very competitive match and both the B and C teams had tremendous wins. Very well played to all the girls but particular congratulations to Madeline Klotz, Jemima Bernabo, Francesca Prior, Luna Flo and Zayna van der Zijl – all scored super goals.

Girls' Games Notices

Additions, Amendments and Reminders

Thursday 10th November

U8 matches v Crosfield (h)

C team will now play at 1345; A and B teams at 1415.

Saturday 12th November

0900 U8 A hockey tournament at St George's Weybridge

Half Term & Christmas Camps

Hype Camp Fun – Monday 31st October to Friday 4th November

In response to parental requests, 360 Hype Half Term Holiday Camp will be at Hall Grove School for the second week of the Hall Grove half term. You can book now via the user-friendly, secure online booking system at <https://360sportseducation.com/> and click on Hall Grove Camp. Flyer attached to the school website.

Reminder: Chertsey Museum Education Services – Half Term Fun

Tuesday 25th October – Mummy Pencil Cases

Thursday 27th October – Halloween Nightlights

Please see flyer on our website for further information.

Whittle & Spark Holiday Adventures – Shepperton and Sunninghill

Days for children aged from 5 years plus. £6 per hour per child / £36 per child per day. 1000-1600.

Contact 07928 752707 or <http://whittleandspark.eventbrite.com> Flyer attached to the school website.

2nd Reminder: The Oratory School, Reading Cricket Christmas Camp – 19th to 23rd December

For boys and girls aged 7-13. Suitable for all abilities.

For further information please see information on the school website.

Surrey Heath Museum - Creepy Crafts – 26th to 29th October

Drop in between 1100 and 1630. FREE.

For further details please call 01276 707 284 or email museum@surreyheath.gov.uk

Friends of Hall Grove

FOHG 80s Night

Last Friday saw 187 school parents go back in time to the 80s at Pine Ridge Golf Club, dressing to impress in outfits as far ranging as BA Barracus, Beetlejuice, Rene from Allo Allo!, Madonna, Aneka Rice, Baywatch, Top Gun, the Young Ones, Adam Ant, the list could go on! A lot of fun was had by all with the dancing going on into the small hours of the morning. We've had lots of positive feedback about the venue and the event. Thank you to all who helped organise and contributed ideas and time.

Senior School Open Mornings / Days

Gresham's School, Norfolk: Saturday 5th November – 01263 714500

Farnborough Hill Open Day – Tuesday 15th November – 01252 529811

Newsletter Attachments

The following information is available on the school website:

- Young Archaeology Club at Chertsey Museum
- Weekly Music Rehearsal Timetable
- 360 Sports Education Half Term Camps
- Bs Netball Camps
- The Oratory School Cricket Christmas Camp
- Chertsey Museum Education Services
- Windlesham Fireworks
- Hype Camp Fun
- Whittle & Spark Holiday Adventures

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Gap Student Services

Our GAP students Georgie Maxfield and Gabby Dunnage would like to offer their services for childcare in the evenings, weekends and during the holidays. Both are first aid qualified, DBS checked and hold driving licenses.

Any queries please contact us by email or phone: Georgie (07545702553/georgie.maxfield@gmail.com) Gabby (07919192015/gdunnage@icloud.com).

Parent Handwriting Workshop

16th November – Admiral Room, 1900 – 2000.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's handwriting, why not come along to a talk on how parents can support handwriting at home? Shelley Birkett-Eyles, Hall Grove Mum and Clinical Specialist Occupational Therapist, is offering this free workshop so parents can understand how to help their children build confidence in their handwriting.

To book your place, click here: <http://www.hallgrove.co.uk/phw>

Windlesham Fireworks – Friday 4th November

Come and join the fun and support some great local charities.

Further information is available on the school website.

“Feed Your Family Right” Programme

Two 4-week nutritional education programmes are starting again in November. One will run on Wednesdays (starting on 9th Nov) and another on Thursdays (starting on 10th Nov). Magda Schellekens (mum of Carmen and Daniela in Year 7), a Nutritionist and Health Coach, is running the programme for busy parents eager to nourish their growing family with healthy and delicious meals and to learn HOW to get the family on-board to eat healthily. The groups are kept small to ensure personalised support, so please book early to ensure your place.

For more information, please find flyer on the website or click: <http://www.healthyforlonger.com/whats-on/>

If interested, please contact Magda on magda@healthyforlonger.com or 07970 192428

3rd Reminder: Operation Christmas Child Samaritan's Purse

If you would like to take part in this worthwhile project, please bring your filled shoe boxes to the School Office from **Monday 7th November** until the deadline of **Friday 11th November**. Please include a donation (recommended donation is £3.00 per box), which covers shipping, transportation, distribution and promotion. Cheques should be made out to Samaritan's Purse. Alternatively, you can pay online which makes the processing easier and cheaper, leaving more money to go directly to helping children. Please visit www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk to make your donation.

2nd Reminder: The Wentworth Christmas Fayre, Wentworth Golf Club – Monday 21st November

Christmas shopping in the beautiful surroundings of the famous Wentworth Ballroom. Monday 21st November, 1000 – 1600. Entrance £5, children free, free parking.