

Hall Grove School Newsletter



www.hallgrove.co.uk

13th January 2017

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A very happy New Year to all our families, and all best wishes for 2017.

The Christmas break already seems a long time ago and we have slipped back into school mode remarkably quickly. It has been a productive week with excellent match results on Wednesday. The building works for the new school extension are proceeding well, on time and on budget. Our thanks to the contractors and to the professional team which has supported the project.

Staff News

Congratulations to Charlie Gold (Year 5 teacher) on his recent engagement to Flaminia Martin. Mr Gold and his fiancée are planning to get married in July or October this year.

Visiting Speaker - Mr Mark Mortimer (Headmaster, Warminster School)

Tuesday 17th January

We are delighted to be welcoming the Headmaster of Warminster School, Mark Mortimer, to Hall Grove on Tuesday 17th January. He will be giving a talk on his ocean rowing experiences in New Hall to Years 5 - 8 at 1600. All parents are very welcome to attend.

The Drive

We have received several complaints recently about cars being parked or left unattended on the turning circle which prevents the drop and collect system working efficiently and causes lengthy queues and delays. Please note that parking is not permitted on the turning circle at any time during the school day and, if there is a need to go into school, cars should be parked before the electric barrier. Please try to avoid arriving early for collection times at the end of the school day because it blocks the drive and pick-up area for everyone else.

In addition, we would like to remind you that, for safety reasons, cars are not permitted to come beyond the turning circle during pick-up and drop-off times. There are often groups of pupils behind the wooden barriers at the top of the drive and cars must not turn into this area to park, drop-off or collect children. Thank you for your co-operation.

Hall Grove Ski Trip to Mayrhofen, Austria

Forty-five boys and girls enjoyed an excellent ski trip to Mayrhofen, Austria last week. The trip was blessed with a good amount of snow and temperatures well below freezing, -20 on one day! Everyone had five hours of instructor-led skiing each day; all groups made huge improvements as the week progressed and enjoyed competing in an exciting slalom competition on the penultimate day. The beginners did extremely well and are now all competent skiers, able to take on blue/red runs. As part of their evening activities, the children enjoyed swimming, quiz night, movie night and curling.

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 17th January to get a flavour of what it is like. Mr Tullett will confirm the resort and dates of next year's trip early next week - it will be during the Christmas holiday. Please email Mr Tullett (i.tullett@hallgrove.co.uk) if you would like to reserve a place for your son or daughter.

Class Assemblies

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

6AK Thursday 19th January

7LS Tuesday 24th January

3MC Thursday 26th January

Calendar Amendments and Additions

Pre-Prep Spring Celebration Monday 20th March (and NOT Thursday 23rd March)

Battisborough Trips:

Year 5 Monday 6th March – Friday 10th March

Year 4 Tuesday 2nd May – Friday 5th May

Year 6 Monday 15th May – Friday 19th May

Year 8 Monday 26th June – Friday 30th June

Key Spring Term Dates for your Diary

Please see listed below important key dates for your diary:

Tuesday 17 th January	Visiting Speaker (Years 5-8) Mr Mark Mortimer (Headmaster, Warminster School) Ocean Rowing
Tuesday 7 th February	Pre-School, Reception, Year 1 and 2 Parent Interviews
Wednesday 8 th February	Pre-School, Reception, Year 1 and 2 Parent Interviews
Monday 20 th February	Years 7 and 8 School Exam Week
20 th , 21 st , 22 nd February	St George's College, Weybridge Academic Scholarship Exams
Sunday 26 th February	Choristers Tour to Manchester
27 th , 28 th Feb, 1 st March	St George's College, Weybridge Academic Scholarship Exams
Wednesday 1 st March	Pre-Prep Healthy Minds Workshop
Thursday 2 nd March	Year 6 Trip to Woking Mosque
Monday 6 th March	Year 5 to Battisborough
Monday 6 th March	Year 7 Great British Bake Off Week
Tuesday 7 th March	Years 7 and 8 Parent Interviews
Wednesday 8 th March	Year 3 to Fishbourne Roman Palace
Wednesday 8 th March	Year 4 presents scenes from 'The Jungle Book'
Thursday 9 th March	Year 7 and 8 Parent Interviews
Monday 13 th March	Years 5 and 6 Parent Interviews
Tuesday 14 th March	Years 5 and 6 Parent Interviews
Thursday 16 th March	Open Morning for Prospective Parents
Friday 17 th March	Year 4 Pre-Battisborough 'Sleepover' at Hall Grove
Tuesday 21 st March	Year 1 to Natural History Museum
Thursday 23 rd March	Pre-Prep Spring Celebration
Friday 24 th March	Easter Service and Term Ends

2017 / 2018 Term Dates

Summer 2017

Monday 24th April – Friday 7th July

Half Term: Saturday 27th May – Sunday 4th June (incl.)

Autumn 2017

Monday 4th September – Friday 15th December

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

Spring 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.)

After School Clubs – Spring Term 2017

After School Clubs started on Monday 9th January and run until Friday 24th March.

MUSIC

Informal Lunchtime Concerts

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. This term the following Informal Concerts are coming up:

Friday 27 th January	Piano Concert I
Friday 3 rd February	Piano Concert II
Friday 10 th February	Strings Concert (omitted from printed calendar)
Friday 24 th February	Brass and Woodwind Concert
Friday 3 rd March	Vocal and Percussion Concert

Instrumental Competition Week, 13th – 17th 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 is available to download from the website (parents / Form Downloads) next week's newsletter and must be submitted to Lizzie Post (l.post@hallgrove.co.uk) by Friday 10th 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.

Associated Board Exams – Friday 17th and Saturday 18th March

This term we will be hosting Associated Board exams here at school for many of our children. This means that children do not need to be taken out of lessons, collected and driven to Woking, Reading and other exam centres. It also means that we will be able to more easily provide accompaniments where needed (usually Miss Post, Mr Waltho or Mr Heffer). In order to provide the appropriate exam conditions, and to give maximum preparation time, we have booked 17th and 18th March. If your child learns with one of our teachers they will have already given us all necessary information (booking closes next Wednesday).

SPORTS

Judo

House Judo on 21st January and 28th January is being rearranged.

Further information about the judo provision for this term has been sent by ClarionCall.

Girls' Games

Our block fixture against Yateley Manor always proves to be a challenge and the girls all performed well. The 1st VII continued their 100% win ratio. Scarlett Creasey, 1st VII Captain, was voted players' player, playing with real versatility as both a defender and a shooter, Tamara Ftouni should be proud of herself making her debut for the first team. The U12 A

team were phenomenal, having a sound win, and Mrs Maxfield was particularly impressed with Grace Harvie and player of the match Yasmin van der Zijl.

The A team lost to a very tall Yateley team - the opposition coach commented that the score did not reflect the quality of the competition and both Catherine Clarke and Aimee Millington were commended by their coach. The B team went from leading all the way to holding on to a draw, with Lyla Smith scoring all eight goals and Zoe Legge having a good match in defence.

The U10 A team certainly had a tough match, the score going goal for goal. Our shooters, Amelie Smith and Anna Camp, proved to be a formidable duo, however the girls lost focus towards the end of the match and Yateley pulled away to win the match. Both the B and C teams had two fantastic wins with Hana Evason being voted girl of the game and lots of goals scored by the Cs (who remain unbeaten under the watchful eye of Mr Tomlinson) - Miel Bopiah, Simrrun Grewal and Nerys Tullett all got on the score card. Both Sophia Bandosz and Ava-Mae Martell were voted coaches' player for their relentless work in defence.

On Thursday the U9 C and D teams travelled to Sherfield in Hook to play their fixtures inside. The D team had a good win. Both new girls, Sofia Jeavons and Frankie Bezer, never having played netball before, show lots of potential for the future. The C team played Sherfield A team, who had some very confident players. Our girls put up a sterling fight and Sophia Brennen showed incredible resilience, having a ball smash into her face and yet continuing to play on; it was great to see Josie Bratt in action again and Elsie Evans had a superb match getting into space well and showing great confidence. Very well done to all.

Girls' Games Notices

Saturday 14th January

U12 and U13 Hall Grove Netball Tournament – cancelled

U11 Danes Hill Netball Tournament – cancelled

U9 Hoe Bridge Netball Tournament – postponed until 21st January

Saturday 21st January

Senior Girls House Hockey – Years 6, 7 and 8. Please meet at 0930 to warm up.

Boys' Games

Wednesday saw Hall Grove start the second half of the rugby season in a very strong and pleasing way. There were matches for the U13 A team against Pangbourne and Reddam House and U12s, Colts A & B and all U10s played in our annual block fixture against Yateley Manor. Hall Grove not only won 7 out of their 9 matches, they also played some of the best rugby seen all year.

The U13s travelled to Pangbourne to play in a triangular fixture against Pangbourne and Reddam House. We played Pangbourne first in a 20 minute match, with all boys performing extremely well and running out convincing winners by 7 tries to 1; arguably one of the most complete team performances this season. Then they moved on to their second 20 minute match against Reddam House. This proved to be a very even contest and the match was played at a very fast pace, with all boys showing how far they have come on this season. Luca Allera scored a brilliant try, showing a good eye for space and solid decision-making to dart over for the try. After large periods of attacking pressure from Hall Grove, Reddam House retained possession in the closing stages and managed to cross over for a try at the last play of the game and the match finished in a 1-1 draw. Mr Hine was very pleased with all the boys' attitude and commitment, but some special mentions must go to Hayden Brown, Marcus Sands and Billy Easeman.

The U12s continued a very impressive season with a good performance against Yateley Manor. Despite losing concentration for a small period of time the boys were always in control of the game and ultimately the result. Nicholas Wall was most impressive, leading from the front and always willing to support the ball carrier through contact. Linus Bray performed very well, scoring four tries, and Callum Kinner led the team from fly half allowing all to play a free flowing and open game of rugby.

Colts A and B teams continued the impressive afternoon of rugby for Hall Grove, scoring in total 21 tries over two matches, again playing two very fast and free flowing games, showing the potential we have in Year 6 on a rugby field. Year 5 continued a pleasing afternoon of rugby - despite the U10 A team playing against a very strong side they never gave up and showed real determination to finish the game in the strongest way possible. U10 Cs competed really well and

showed a very clinical approach to score 12 tries in a 20 minute approach. All boys should be pleased with their efforts today after all performing very well in all matches.

Boys' Games Notices

Saturday 14th January

Rugby v Moulshford

U13 A, U12 A and U11 A are to meet at Hall Grove at 0845. The matches begin at 1030. The estimated return time is 1245. If the weather is too bad to play a decision on whether the match goes ahead will be made at 0830 on Saturday at the latest. If you do not receive a ClarionCall please assume all is going ahead.

Saturday 21st January

Rugby v Woodcote

U11 A (h), U13 A and U12 A (a) - all matches start at 1430.

Friends of Hall Grove

FOHG Saturday Golf & Tennis Club

There are a few spaces available for January 2017 in Reception, Years 1, 2 & 3.

If you are interested please email: fohgtennisgolf@gmail.com

Senior School Open Mornings / Days

Stowe Lower School, (13+ Entry) – 14th January, 18th March 2017 – 01280 818205

Bede's Senior School, East Sussex – 18th March 2017 – 01323 843252

Newsletter Attachments

The following information is available on the school website:

- Weekly Music Rehearsal Timetable
- Instrumental Competition External Entry Form

BBC One prime time series 'Eat Well For Less?'

The show follows MasterChef's Gregg Wallace and award winning greengrocer Chris Bavin on a mission to prove that it is possible for families to save money on their food budget without scrimping on taste and nutrition. They hope that by analysing the shopping habits of UK families, they can help to show where we can source the best and cheapest quality food. Applications are now open and they are currently on the lookout for fun and lively families who would love to save some money on their weekly shop and eat more healthily.

Get in touch to apply or find out more! Tel: 0117 970 7698 or e-mail: eatwell@rdftv.com for further information.

After School childcare required

I am seeking after school care for our Year 5 son, to collect him from Hall Grove and take him back to his home in Ascot, and look after him until 1830 every night. Our nanny of eight years is currently on maternity leave and we are looking for extra cover at the end of the day for approximately three months. The hours will be twice a week 1630 to 1830 and three times a week 1730 to 1830. Happy to consider a responsible young adult. Paying competitive rates. Please call Amanda on 07775 720073.