



Our Open Morning on Thursday was a great success, with a large number of visitors leaving with a very positive impression of the school. They were particularly impressed with our Year 8 pupils, who acted as guides and did an excellent job of showcasing their school.

Over recent months, a small number of senior schools, including Wellington College, have questioned the reliability of Common Entrance (CE) as a transfer examination at the end of Year 8. Hall Grove teachers believe that CE gives senior pupils a keen sense of focus over their last two years at prep school and we know that our pupils will be much better prepared for senior school work and for GCSE courses having taken sat the papers. Former pupils would agree.

We have been reassured to find that a large majority of senior schools are equally vigorous in their support for this exam. Several of our staff have been involved in high-level discussions about the future of CE, further details below.

The Headmaster has been absent for two days this week, promoting the school to families in Dubai looking to relocate to the UK.

Choristers - Radio 4 Live Morning Service

Congratulations to the Choristers for their beautiful singing and reading this morning on BBC's Morning Service. We have received amazing feedback from parents and the general public as follows:

'I would like to congratulate your choir who sang so beautifully today and the excellent reading from one of your pupils. It was a joy to hear.'

'We have just listened to the Daily Service and were so impressed by the Hall Grove Choristers: such accomplished, joyful singing. Well done to everybody involved and a big thank you to the teachers.'

DIARY REMINDERS

MARCH

Monday 18th

Year 3 & 4 Parent Interviews

Tuesday 19th

0835 6AK Assembly
Early Years & Pre-Prep Meetings
Years 3 & 4 Parents' Meetings

Wednesday 20th

Early Years & Pre-Prep Meetings
1800 Years 7 & 8 Parents' Meetings

Thursday 21st

0835 5JF Assembly
1800 Years 7 & 8 Parents' Meetings

Friday 22nd

Co-Curricular **Clubs finish**

Tuesday 26th

Second Hand Uniform Sale **DROP OFF** at Pavilion
1900 Year 5 Present 'The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe'

Thursday 28th

1400 Early Years & Pre-Prep
Performance Afternoon
1500-1700 Second-hand Uniform Sale

Friday 29th

1400 Easter Service
Term Ends:
1500 Pre-Prep
1600 Years 3 and 4
1620 Years 5 and 6
1630 Years 7 and 8
1600 Old Hall Grovians' Exhibition
Hockey Match

APRIL

Term starts:

Wednesday 24th April

SEB update

The Independent Schools Examinations Board has begun an extensive review of its services, in particular of Common Entrance, the exam sat by our Year 8 boys and girls every June. Mr Graham's advice has been sought by the Geography setters, and he has spoken up for CE at a recent Heads' meeting. Already Wellington College has softened its opposition to the exam. Mr McLeod attended a meeting of the Science consultation group at Benenden School to discuss the future shape of the syllabus and assessments, and Mr Lewis was invited to chair a meeting of the History consultation group at Eton College.

These discussions have been both rigorous and stimulating. Mr Lewis will be taking his group's findings through to an ISEB Steering Group meeting at Charterhouse on 25th March. This will comprise senior staff from the prep and senior school worlds as ISEB seeks to maintain high-quality examinations which give pupils a strong academic focus in Years 7 and 8.

We will be pleased to hear from any parents who have views to share and wish to be part of this debate. Please email a.graham@hallgrove.co.uk

Sunningdale School CE Revision Course

This runs from April 15th - 18th, providing intensive coaching in English, Maths, Science and French to prepare for Common Entrance. Residential or day options. Details from Mrs Bell on 01344 620159.

Demosthenes Public Speaking Competition

Congratulations to Alfie Holmes, Harry Debenham, Isabel Harvie and Raciis Mogul who spoke with wit and aplomb at the Demosthenes Public Speaking Competition at Bradfield College. Alfie and Harry entertained the audience with their discussion as to whether teachers should be replaced by robots, whilst Isabel and Raciis impressed with their eloquence on the topic of the dark side of nursery rhymes.

Second-hand Uniform Sale in Pavilion

The drop off date for clean uniform donations to the Pavilion is Tuesday 26th March, but the sale will now run on Thursday 28th. If any parents would like to help sort and hang up uniform on Tuesday and/or Wednesday afternoons or help at the sale on Thursday, please email the School Office.

Music

Spring Concert

Very well done to all who performed in the Spring Concert earlier this week. It was a thoroughly enjoyable concert for all that were there, with a very impressive standard across all ensembles. Well done to all who were involved for the hours of practice which have gone into that performance. Our thanks to our team of peripatetics for all their patience and dedication in directing the ensembles.

Choristers

Congratulations to the Choristers on their fabulous broadcast this morning on Radio 4 LW. Miss Post was delighted with the sound they produced and their professionalism in the studio too, they represented the school with aplomb.

The Choristers will be singing at the Easter Service which is held on the final day of term at 1400 in the New Hall. Chorister parents are welcome to attend this service.

ABRSM Exams

Children taking exams on the 22nd & 23rd March should come directly to the Music Office at least 20 minutes before their exam time. They will then be escorted to the exam room. Children taking an exam on Saturday **need not wear uniform.**

Music Practice Club

Practice Club will again run on Monday and Tuesday evenings next term between 1630-1730. If you would like your child to attend a half hour session, please contact Mr Will Thorne to book a slot. These sessions are free of charge.

ABSENCES

If your child is unwell please
T: 01276 473059 (option 1) or
E: office@hallgrove.co.uk

TERM DATES

Spring Term 2019

7th January – 29th March

Half Term:

16th - 24th February

Summer Term 2019

24th April – 12th July

Half Term:

25th May - 2nd June

Autumn Term 2019

9th September - 20th December

Half Term:

26th October - 10th November

Spring Term 2020

13th January – 27th March

Half Term:

15th - 23rd February

Summer Term 2020

22nd April – Friday 10th July

Half Term:

23rd – 31st May

KEY DATES 2019

Saturday 11th May

Hall Grove Country Day and Open Gardens

Friday 7th June

Early Years & Pre-Prep Sports Day

Saturday 8th June

Sports Day Years 3-8

Friday 28th June

Caribbean Night (Parents Social)

NEWSLETTER

ATTACHMENTS

SENIOR SCHOOL OPEN MORNINGS

EASTER & SUMMER CAMPS

THE UNIFORM SHOP

Easter Opening

Monday 15th April 1430-1730

Don't forget to follow us on
Twitter! [@hallgroveschool](https://twitter.com/hallgroveschool)
[@hallgrovesport](https://twitter.com/hallgrovesport)

Sport

A very busy week of sport with the boys and girls taking part in many tournaments and, in the case of our judo and cross country teams, national championships. Well done to all the judo team but particularly to Thomas Dysons who won a silver medal in his category and Jake Edwards, Edward Bratt and Matias Kuorehjarvi who won bronze medals in their categories. The cross country team performed exceptionally well in very testing conditions at Malvern College and can be proud of their efforts, especially the U11 boys (who finished 3rd) and the U11 girls (who finished 5th in the small school's event). The same teams performed very well at Claremont, the Under 11 boys finishing 3rd overall out of nearly 20 teams.

Well done to the U10 boys who won the Charterhouse Hockey tournament and the U10 girls who were runners up at the Luckley School Netball Tournament. Our junior teams enjoyed a successful afternoon of hockey and lacrosse against Feltonfleet and Lambrook, with much fun had by all despite the blustery conditions. A final congratulations to the U12 Girls who performed very well at the Surrey Finals and were unlucky not to proceed to the final rounds on Wednesday - we wish them well for next week's National Finals.

Please follow [the link](#) for further timings and results.

Easter and May Half Term Camps

Hall Grove Girls Cricket Camp

Gabby Dunnage (Surrey Cricket) and Mrs Maxfield will be running a U8-U13 girls cricket camp at Hall Grove over the Easter holidays on Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th April from 1000-1500 and again in May half term on Thursday 30th and Friday 31st May.

The cost will be £40 for one day and £70 for both, please email [Mrs Maxfield](#) to reserve your place.

Heathfield School, Ascot - Summer Camp for Girls

7th July to 3rd August, girls aged 7 to 15

For a brochure: 01344 885197 or summerschool@heathfieldschool.net

For further information on other Easter and Summer camps, please click the link in the right-hand column.