



**Newsletter 648**  
**6<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

*Welcome to our first Newsletter of the academic year 2019/20. We hope all Hall Grove families have enjoyed a summer holiday and feel ready to start back next Monday. The teaching staff are very much looking forward to meeting the children and easing them into familiar school routines.*

*Parents will be aware that there has been a thorough review of our co-curricular and after-school programme. As well as providing a range of suitable activities, we have taken account of best practice for safeguarding and child welfare. Please bear with us whilst we sort out any teething problems with the new booking system.*

*We look forward to meeting with parents at the various briefing evenings that have been arranged. Details are given below.*

**Staff news**

Congratulations to Kirsty Dunnage and her partner Russell on the birth of their daughter, Sienna, also to Louise Skinner (now Lovett!) on her marriage to Mr James Lovett.

**New staff**

We are delighted to welcome a number of new staff to Hall Grove. Henry Toulson will be fondly remembered by many families, and he returns to teach English and History to Years 6, 7 and 8. Tina Wilson joins Katie Hitchcox as a Year 2 class teacher and Lizzie Lewis joins the Year 3 team to cover Kirsty Dunnage's maternity leave.

The Performing Arts department is bolstered by the arrival of three extremely talented performers. Professional harpist and woodwind specialist Ingrid Bayley joins the music department alongside Miss Post and Annabel Kennedy, also new to the school, who is studying a post-graduate degree in operatic singing at the Royal College of Music. Professional actor and LAMDA graduate Ollie Dickens will work alongside Mrs Hiles in the drama department and will also teach some games. Our magnificent new performance studio will be further enhanced by specialist tap and ballet teachers as well as former pupil Lucy Erridge, who is launching a modern dance club called Street Elite.

Angela Godley, Paula Harrage, Laura McNair, George Neville and Laura Stimson join our talented team of teaching assistants.

**DIARY REMINDERS**

**SEPTEMBER**

**Sunday 8th**  
0900-1200 The Uniform Shop will be open

**Monday 9th**  
Term starts  
1000 Welcome Assembly for new parents

**Wednesday 11th**  
1900 Years 7 & 8 Parents' Briefing

**Thursday 12th**  
1900 Early Years Parents' Briefing

**Week commencing 16th**  
Co-Curricular Programme starts

**Tuesday 17th**  
OPRO Impression Visit

**Wednesday 18th**  
1900 Years 3 & 4 Parents' Briefing

**Thursday 19th**  
Year 7 Residential Trip to France  
1900 Year 5 and 6 Parents' Briefing

**Monday 23rd**  
Year 7 Residential Trip to France returns

**Tuesday 24th**  
Year 3 to Butser Ancient Farm

**Wednesday 25th**  
0815-0900 Pre-Prep Open Classroom

**Thursday 26th**  
0835 6MW Assembly

**Friday 27th**  
0800 Macmillan Coffee Morning  
Gillman & Soame Individual and Sibling Photographs

**OCTOBER**

**Tuesday 1st**  
0835 4KF Assembly

## School Minibus Service

Following a very successful trial last term, we are delighted to confirm that a morning bus service will run from the second week of this term. Further details, including routes and charges, will be sent to parents next week.

## Autumn Term 2020 dates

Monday 7th September – Friday 18th December  
Half Term: Saturday 24th October – Sunday 8th November

## Arrangements for the First Week of Term

### Monday 9th September

All children must be in school for the start of formal activities by 0900 (0930 for EYFS). Parents may drop their children from 0815, either at the turning circle or by parking on the hard area/paddock and walking their children down to school. There will be teachers and teaching assistants on hand to collect pupils from The Lighthouse and take them to their classrooms.

Early Years children are to be brought straight to The Barn so please park on the hard area and walk them to their classrooms by 0930.

Parents of new children in Years 3 – 8 may, if they so wish, return to school for the first Assembly of term at 1000 in New Hall. Please enter by the main doorway beyond the Coach House. Coffee will be served in The Lighthouse afterwards, and there will be a chance to briefly meet some key staff.

**Clubs start in the second week of term, from Monday 16th September. Children from Reception to Year 4 can be booked into 360 if after-school care is required; those in Years 5-8 who cannot be collected at the normal time will be supervised by duty staff until collection. (please see late collection charges below).**

## The School Day

### Normal Starting Times

Breakfast (0730) must be booked through the Boarding House via the online form (Parents / Breakfast Request Form). The charge for breakfast is £6 (with or without early morning training) and will be added to the school bill.

Children not involved in the above may arrive from 0815.  
Children in Years 1 – 8 **must** be registered by 0830.  
Reception and Pre-School children should be in The Barn by 0900.

Before 0830, we operate a 'turn and drop' system as there is very limited car parking available. Children in the Pre-Prep who may need walking into school should therefore, be brought in after 0830 until they are confident enough to go to their classes unaided.

### Going Home Times

Early Years	Pre-Prep	Lower Juniors	Upper Juniors	Seniors
Pre-School:1230/1500	Year 1: 1530	Year 3: 1600	Year 5:1640	Year 7:1730
Reception:1510	Year 2: 1540	Year 4: 1610	Year 6:1710	Year 8:1730

### Late collection charges

Any child in Reception to Year 4 will automatically join 360 from the following times:  
1530 Reception  
1600 Years 1 & 2  
1630 Years 3 and 4

**360's normal half-hourly rate will apply from these times.**

Children in Years 5-8 will be supervised by a teacher and charges will apply from the following times at £5 for every half an hour or part thereof:

## ABSENCES

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

## TERM DATES

### 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 (incl)

### Summer Term 2020

22nd April – 10th July  
Half Term:  
23rd – 31st May (incl)

### Autumn Term 2020

7th September – 18th December  
Half Term:  
24th October – 8th November

## Battisborough Trips 2020

Year 4 4th – 7th May  
Year 5 27th April – 1st May  
Year 6 18th – 22nd May  
Year 8 29th June – 3rd July

## NEWSLETTER ATTACHMENTS

**Don't forget to follow us on  
Twitter! @hallgroveschool  
@hallgrovesport**

1700 Year 5  
1730 Year 6  
1745 Years 7 & 8

Year 5 collection will be at 1640 from the Tennis Courts. Those children attending clubs will be supervised from 1630 until 1700. Year 6 collection will be 1710 from the Tennis Courts.

Collection for Senior pupils is at 1730 next to the Lighthouse. Between 1700 and 1730 each day, all Senior pupils not involved in a club will have a supervised prep session. During this time, we will also be taking groups of children for small scale academic interventions. There is, however, the option for pupils with siblings in Year 6 to be collected together at 1710.

Supper is available to children in Years 3 to 8 on Monday to Thursday inclusive from 1815 -1845. The charge for supper is £15 (inclusive of any supervision and evening activity). The charge will be added to the school bill. As with breakfast, supper should be booked through the boarding house.

## **The Drive**

**Early arrival for collection MUST be avoided because it blocks the pick-up area for everyone else. If you are collecting two or more children within any of the above sections (i.e. Reception - Year 2, Years 3 - 5, Years 6 - 8), you may find it easier to collect at the later time. Please do not wait on the turning circle between pick-up times.**

To ensure a safe and efficient drop-off and pick-up, we require everyone to be considerate and remember that one person not complying with our policy causes a large number of people considerable frustration. Please remember the following and inform **anyone** dropping off or collecting your child:

In the mornings, it is important to observe the 'turn and drop' system, and in the afternoon, please 'turn and collect'. If you need to park, please use the hard surface tennis court area (available until 0855 only or after sports).

Use the paths and crossings with your children - please do not dash across the drive.

Older children may be encouraged to walk down the drive in the mornings, using the pathway and crossings. Assist the flow of traffic by arriving at school no earlier than the designated pick-up times. Cars should never park on the yellow lines or roundabout.

**NB** Years 5 and 6 are collected from the shelters next to the Tennis Courts. Children will be walked there for collection at 1640 (Year 5) and 1710 (Year 6).

We are aware that the afternoon and evening collections can cause a great deal of frustration. Parents are asked, please, to assist by arriving no earlier than the published collection time and to be patient. We are not alone as a school in having pressure points in traffic and our arrangements are very much better than many others!

## **School Security - Visitors**

Please note that all visitors to the school, outside normal drop-off and collection times, are required to report to the School Office – this includes all parents. Unless otherwise directed, all access to the buildings during the school day will be via the front door, where you must report to the School Office to be signed in. If for any reason your child needs to be collected before the end of the school day, please come to the School Office where he/she will be brought to meet you and will be signed out.

The school grounds are **not** available for parents and families to use for exercise or recreation other than by arrangement. Dogs are not permitted on the fields.

## **School Uniform**

Winter uniform is to be worn from the start of term. (If it is warm weather children will be advised not to wear ties or jumpers). Uniform must be smart in appearance at all times - please be aware that you will be asked to replace items if this is not the case. All school uniform and kit must be clearly labelled **inside** with **your** child's name.

### **Boys' Trousers**

Please ensure that Years 7 and 8 boys wear the grey 'uniform' trousers as specified in the clothing list. Alternative shades of

grey are not permitted.

### **Watches**

Pupils in Years 7 and 8 may wear a simple watch but these are not permitted for other children in the school. The school's policy on watches has been simplified and only pupils in the Senior Section can wear them. Smart Watches, including activity bands are not permitted in school.

### **Girls' Earrings, other Jewellery, Makeup and Hair**

Girls with pierced ears are only allowed to wear small gold/silver studs to school and they must be able to take them out for Games and PE. No bracelets or wrist bands should be worn without the express permission of the Headmaster. No makeup or nail varnish should be worn at any time. Hair should be tied back if it reaches the shoulder using hairbands available from the school uniform shop.

### **Clubs**

Clubs begin in the week commencing Monday 16th September and run until Friday 6th December – further information has already been sent to parents.

Pony Grove looks forward to the children returning from the summer break and after-school lessons will resume the week of 16 September. We still have spaces and welcome children of all ages including reception age.

Please contact Karen on 07702766423 or e mail [Ponygrovelimited@gmail.com](mailto:Ponygrovelimited@gmail.com)

### **Boarding**

Children in Years 4 to 8 can be booked in to board on Mondays to Thursdays inclusive. There are a limited number of places available for flexi-boarders and, where possible, we prefer children to have a minimum of two consecutive boarding nights a week, booked on a regular basis. Boarding at Hall Grove gives a good introduction to senior school life and is very popular. For enquiries please contact Mr McChesney ([a.mcchesney@hallgrove.co.uk](mailto:a.mcchesney@hallgrove.co.uk)) and book via the school website online booking form (Parents / Boarding Request Form).

As from September 2019 Casual Boarding will increase to £45.00 per night and Pre-Paid Flexi Boarding will increase to £35.00 per night.

### **Weekly Newsletters**

The weekly newsletter is sent out by email to all parents via the ClarionCall service. Any additional documents or letters will be attached to the newsletter email, posted on the school website with links or will be sent out separately by email. A few copies of the most current newsletters are held in the School Office for collection should you require a paper copy. In addition, on Fridays, a link to that week's newsletter will be posted on the school website home page.

### **School Uniform Shop Opening Times**

#### **Term Time Only Opening Times**

Mondays & Tuesdays 0800 – 0915  
Thursdays 1500 – 1730

### **Macmillan Coffee Morning – Friday 27th September**

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

*Catrina Graham*

### **Autumn Term 2019 School Calendar**

A copy of the Autumn Term 2019 School Calendar was sent home with the school reports and is also available on the School website. Please note the weekend commitments. Parents are reminded that all boys and girls from Year 3 upwards are expected to be available on some Saturdays for whole year group training sessions, house matches and weekend fixtures—further details can be found on the school website.

### **Reports and Invoices**

#### **Fee Invoices**

The fee invoices and school reports were sent out at the end of the Summer term. We ask that the invoices are settled promptly and no later than Monday 9th September please.

## Parents' Briefings

Refreshments will be available for parents in the Lighthouse from 1830 prior to these meetings:

Early Years	Thursday 12th September	1900	New Hall then the Barn
Years 1 and 2	Monday 16th September	1900	New Hall
Years 3 and 4	Wednesday 18th September	1900	New Hall
Years 5 and 6	Thursday 19th September	1900	New Hall
Years 7 and 8	Wednesday 11th September	1900	New Hall

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

## Hall Grove Open Morning – Thursday 17th October

There will be an Open Morning taking place on Thursday 17th October from 0930 to 1130. It is intended for prospective parents so we would be grateful if you would inform friends and work colleagues who may be interested in sending a child to Hall Grove one day.

## Sports Team Information

Once teams have been selected, team sheets are posted on the school website where you can find a map for directions. The teams for Wednesday/Friday fixtures will be published by the end of the school day on Mondays/Tuesdays. Saturday fixture information will be available from the end of the school day on Thursdays. Team sheets also include departure times for weekend matches. Parents are welcome to attend all matches to support their children. The school website informs parents about forthcoming fixtures for the term ahead. Please be aware that Year 3 matches are listed as U8, Year 4 as U9, Year 5 as U10, Year 6 as U11 or Colts and Years 7 and 8 as U12 and U13 or 1st – 5th teams. **Please call 01276 470009 if your child is unable to attend a match.**

## Mouth guards

Children in Years 3 – 8 need a mouthguard for hockey and rugby. It is preferable that children return to school with a mouthguard. Alternatively, the OPRO service is available, but this will mean that mouthguards will not be available in time for the first girls' hockey matches which start right at the beginning of term.

OPRO, the dental organisation that specialises in mouthguards, will be visiting the school on Tuesday 17th September for girls' and boys' mouthguard fittings. To order a mouthguard please visit: <http://mouthguards.opro.com/custom/order>

Boys in Years 4 – 8 will need a mouthguard from the middle of September, once the OPRO mouthguards have arrived.

**PE** - Year 5 – 8 will be continuing with swimming during PE lessons until half term. Please make sure all boys and girls in those years have their swimming kit.

## Music

The Music Department can now be contacted via [music@hallgrove.co.uk](mailto:music@hallgrove.co.uk)

## Instrumental Lessons

Parents keen for their children to start individual music lessons should write to the Director of Music, Miss Post ([l.post@hallgrove.co.uk](mailto:l.post@hallgrove.co.uk)). We will be delighted to advise and arrange lessons for any pupils wishing to take advantage of this opportunity. We currently offer lessons in voice, recorders, flute, clarinet, saxophone, piano, organ, trumpet, cornet, trombone, tuba, violin, viola, 'cello, ukulele, guitar (classical and electric), drums and percussion, with 12 visiting instrumental teachers. If parents have queries on this, or wish to explore the possibility of their children learning other instruments, please contact Miss Post. Wherever possible we will encourage the children to join instrumental ensembles to aid their musical development.

We also offer supervised 30-minute instrumental practice sessions after school for children in Years 3 – 8. These will begin the week beginning Monday 16th September, the same week as our co-curriculum programme. Please contact Miss Post for further information.

## Lamda Lessons

Any parent of a child in Years 4–8 interested in their child having individual Lamda lessons with Mr Dickens, a graduate of Lamda himself, are asked to contact the school office. Mr Dickens will contact parents of existing Lamda pupils next week. Lessons will begin in the second week of term.

## **School Service Books**

All new children in Years 3 - 8 will be issued with a Service Book, which has its own individual bookplate - it is something to treasure and keep beyond Hall Grove. Please name it neatly, take care of it and keep in school.

## **General Notes**

### **Absence**

It is important to notify the School Office if your child is absent from school. In the event of illness, parents should notify the School Office by telephone on 01276 473059 or by email to [office@hallgrove.co.uk](mailto:office@hallgrove.co.uk) on the morning of the absence. This is a **legal** requirement. Prior written notice of absence due to medical appointments, music exams etc., should be sent to the School Office. School absence for family events and holidays will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and must via a formal application for absence to Mr Graham.

### **Sickness**

If your child is unwell during the night, i.e. sickness, diarrhoea etc., please allow 48 hours to elapse before you send him/her back to school.

### **Medical Details and Medication**

Please remember to inform the School of any changes to the medical information we currently hold for your child. Medication from home (e.g. antibiotics) may only be administered if requested by the parent/guardian in writing with instructions using the 'Parent Consent for Prescribed Medication' form available on the School website ('Parents / Medical / Parental Consent for Prescribed Medication'). These are also available from the School Office or from the School Nurses. All medication should be clearly labelled, with the dispensing label if prescribed by a doctor. Please note that decanted medicines will not be accepted. Asthma inhalers and Adrenaline pens should be brought to school at the start of term and given to the School Office together with written instructions for use. Please ensure that all medication is named and in date.

Please note, the new email address for Mrs Jackson and Mrs White, our School Nurses: [schoolnurses@hallgrove.co.uk](mailto:schoolnurses@hallgrove.co.uk).

### **Head Lice**

Please check your child's hair for head lice before he/she returns to school and continue to check on a regular basis. If it becomes necessary to treat your child during term-time, please notify the school. Advice regarding treatment can be obtained from your local pharmacist.

### **Lost Property**

Please ensure all your child's possessions are named clearly and securely, including all footwear. There is a significant amount of lost property which cannot be returned as it is unnamed. If items of uniform are secondhand, please remember to remove the old name tapes and replace with your child's own name.

## **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. Thank you.

