



Newsletter 653
11th October 2019

Our annual visit from the OSCAR family has become one of the highlights of the Autumn term. This year 15 boys from one of the poorest parts of Mumbai visited with their football coaches and spent a night here. They joined some of our pupils for supper and a kick around on the Astro under the lights.

This morning, after a full English breakfast, they came to Assembly resplendent in their Indian clothes and head dress. Three short speeches described living conditions at home and their determination to become role models to the thousands of poor children in their community where child labour, forced marriage and gender inequality are burning issues. It was very moving.

This three-week tour has taken them to a number of famous senior schools including Marlborough, Harrow, Eton Bradfield and Malvern. As well as site seeing, they were delighted to be hosted by Arsenal FC who presented them with team shirts at the stadium.

OSCAR has a particularly close connection with Hall Grove and values our interest and support. Each visit has been so inspiring and is a real education for our pupils. Further details on the [OSCAR website](#) and this [excellent BBC film](#) first shown two years ago.

Hall Grove Open Morning – Thursday 17th October

A reminder about the 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.

Hall Grove Country Fair and Grandparents' Afternoon – Friday 25th October – 1345 to 1700

More information will follow about our annual Country Fair, in the meantime please forewarn grandparents or other elderly relatives that we will be inviting them into school on October 25th.

DIARY REMINDERS

OCTOBER

Monday 14th

Year 8 trip to Battsborough
Senior Schools Transfer Evening (Year 6)
1900 Drinks in the Lighthouse
1930 New Hall

Tuesday 15th

0835 6HT Assembly
Year 4 to Rural Life Museum
1700 Early Years & Pre-Prep Parents' Meetings

Wednesday 16th

1600 Early Years & Pre-Prep Parents' Meetings

Thursday 17th

0930 Open Morning for Prospective Parents
1250 Informal Strings Concert

Tuesday 22nd

0835 8LM Assembly
1700 Year 3 Parents' Meetings

Wednesday 23rd

1700 Year 3 Parents' Meetings

Thursday 24th

0835 4MC Assembly

Friday 25th

0835 Harvest Assembly
Country Fair Grandparents' Afternoon

HALF TERM:

Monday 28th Oct – Fri 8th Nov

NOVEMBER

Monday 4th

0930-1500 Pre-Season Rugby Training
Pre-Season Netball Tour to Battsborough departs

Friday 8th

Rugby Tour to Scotland departs

Monday 11th

1030 Remembrance Service

Wednesday 13th

Year 2 to Winchester Science Centre

Tuesday 19th

0835 8JC Assembly

Remembrance Service - Monday 11th November

This special Assembly is always much enjoyed by parents and other visitors. It starts at 1030 in New Hall.

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 submitting them to the Headmaster for his approval and on to senior schools.

2020-2021 Key Dates

Friday 5th June Early Years and Pre-Prep Sports Day
Saturday 6th June Sports Day (Years 3-8)

Spring Term 2020

Monday 13th January – Friday 27th March
Half Term Saturday 15th – Sunday 23rd February

Summer Term 2020

Wednesday 22nd April – Friday 10th July
(Half Term Saturday 23rd – Sunday 31st May)

Autumn Term 2020

Saturday 7th September – Wednesday 18th December
(Half Term Saturday 24th October – Sunday 8th November)

Spring Term 2021

Monday 11th January – Friday 26th March
(Half Term Saturday 13th – Sunday 21st February)

Summer Term 2021

Monday 19th April – Friday 9th July
(Half Term Saturday 29th May – Sunday 6th June)

Autumn Term 2021

Monday 6th September–Friday 17th December
(Half Term Saturday 23rd October–Sunday 7th November)

Senior Schools Fair–Thursday 5th March 2020

We will again be co-hosting a senior schools fair with Eagle House. The event will take place at Hall Grove on Thursday 5th March from 1530-1800 and over 30 schools will be present. We are careful to select a wide range of both boarding and day options so parents are able to explore all the possibilities. Further details will follow nearer the time but for now please put the date in your diary.

Music

Informal Concerts

Very well done to all our Brass players for a fantastic concert yesterday. Our next Informal Lunchtime Concert will be held in the Performance Studio at 1300 on Thursday 17th October and will be for Strings players. If your child learns outside of school but would like to perform, please contact music@hallgrove.co.uk before Monday next week.

ABRSM Exams

The timetable for the exams held at school on the 6th December has been sent out this afternoon. Please get in contact with us if you were expecting your child to have been entered and haven't received this email.

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

Spring Term 2021

11th January – 26th March
Half Term:
13th – 21st February

Summer Term 2021

19th April – 9th July
Half Term:
29th May – 6th June

Autumn Term 2021

6th September – 17th December
Half Term:
23rd October – 7th November

Battisborough Trips 2020

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

School Uniform Shop

Term Time Opening Times

Mondays & Tuesdays 0800 – 0915
Thursdays 1500 – 1730

NEWSLETTER ATTACHMENTS

OCTOBER HALF TERM CAMPS

Sport

Sport continues at a furious pace with over 210 hockey and football matches played so far this term. Every child from Years 3 to Year 8 has represented the school and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Congratulations to Ollie Eliot who was awarded his football colours and Alex McKinnon who has been selected for the county as a hockey goalkeeper.

It has been a particularly busy week with numerous tournaments and lots of success for the boys and girls. Some notable highlights are listed below:

Girls' Hockey

U10 A and B – two wins against St George's Windsor

U13 A Girls – 5th place at Pangbourne Tournament

U12 A Girls – 7th place at Pangbourne Tournament

U8 A Girls – 3rd Place at St Pirans Hockey Tournament

Boys' Football

U13 A – 3rd place in regional qualifiers at Chigwell, securing qualification for the national finals

U11 A – winners of the Charterhouse Tournament and semi-finalists at Bradfield Tournament

U10 A – runners up at Charterhouse Tournament

U13 A – won Surrey Cup match against Thomas's Battersea and through to quarter finals

Rugby Training Camp - 4th and 5th November

This is open to any boy in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 who is interested in preparing for the upcoming season. It may also be beneficial for any child who has never played before and would like to have an introduction before the season starts.

The camp will run from 0930 to 1500. The children will need to bring usual warm clothes (2 sets), a packed lunch and drinks.

The cost of the camp will be £35 per day or £60 for both days. Cheques should be made payable to Hall Grove School Limited.

Please contact Mr Cottrell, Head of Rugby – j.cottrell@hallgrove.co.uk

Pangbourne College Rowing Taster Morning

Pangbourne College warmly invite any interested Year 7 and 8 GIRLS to a taster morning on Wednesday 23 October 1000 – 1200.

Pangbourne is one of the most successful rowing schools in the country, and this is one of the three leading sports at the College.

As this event takes place during the Hall Grove School term (half term for Pangbourne and some other schools) Mr McChesney will drive any participating Hall Grove girls to Pangbourne and then back in time for the afternoon's hockey.

Please book using the link below, and then if offered a place (limited to sixteen in total, so best to book early to avoid disappointment) please let Mr McChesney know: a.mcchesney@hallgrove.co.uk

www.pangbourne.com/rowing-taster

Reminder: Prize Giving Cups and Awards

We are still awaiting the return of some cups. Please have the cup engraved in the same format as the previous winner and return it to the School Office. Alternatively, we offer an engraving service for £10.00 per cup. Thank you.

October Half Term Camps

For half term camp information, please click the link in the right-hand column.

Battisborough House for the New Year

Welcome in the year 2020 with a special party at Battisborough House! Up to four families may share the rental from December 27th to January 3rd. Enquiries at: [Lynn Tilley](#)

Christmas Fayre at Great Fosters - Monday 25th November, 0930-1600

Gift stalls, raffles, refreshments. All enquiries: sunitashroff@mac.com. Flyer attached to the School website.