

From the Headmaster – Neil Tomlin OBE

This week we have focused our attention on one of our 6 school values. Be Kind and Gentle was introduced at the school assembly on Monday and has flowed through many of our lessons this week. Children have been given the chance to think about what actions they might take in order to demonstrate that they are living by this value. I therefore hope that they might be helpful around the house and look after their brothers, sisters and friends.

Next week's value of the week is to 'be respectful' where we have a great opportunity to encourage our children to respect people and the objects around them. We also intend to ensure the children understand the requirement to accept differences within our Hall Grove community and to celebrate diversity.

Diversity is particularly important in a coeducational school like ours. We have been delighted by the number of our children applying to become house captains from our girls and boys. The interview process starts next week. We were also delighted by the suggestion from one of our year 7 girls that the school council should have equal representation from girls and boys, and we will ensure that is the case.

It has been a great pleasure to hear music ringing out across the school. With over 50 members, our choirs are huge and amongst other targets, a key focus of their term will be to get ready for the school carol service to take place in the chapel at Wellington College on 16 December. The Dance and drama departments have also proved to be immensely popular with children enjoying the chance to be as creative as their imaginations will take them.

My final mention of the week goes to the Seniors' Autumn lecture series that started last night. The Sky News Royal Correspondent, Alastair Bruce, delivered a tour-de-force insight into the life and role of our Queen. The level of educational enrichment offered to our older children was second to none and the benefit of these events will serve to support their development as they ready themselves for their journey towards senior school education. Dr Ruth Sullivan, Headmistress of Sherborne School for Girls is next to speak on 30 September.

We wish you all a restful weekend and look forward to welcoming you back for week 3 on Monday.

School Business

Performance

For all information regarding Music, Dance or Drama including details on choirs, ensembles, instrumental lessons, Chorister auditions and Trinity Speech & Drama exams, please see the attachment titled 'Performing Arts 2021-2022'.

Parents keen for their children to start individual music lessons should write to the Director of Music, Miss Post (music@hallgrove.co.uk).

Hall Grove Open Morning – Thursday 30th September

There will be an Open Morning taking place on Thursday 30th September from 0900 to 1100. 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 NGS Garden Opening - Saturday 2nd October

This is an annual event on behalf of the National Garden Scheme, a charity that supports several good causes. The school grounds and gardens will be open for viewing from 1400 to 1700 as well as the walled garden. There are a variety of trails and walks including the historic ice house in the garden of Field House, a woodland walk and the boating lake. Entry is by way of donation, £5 is recommended, all money going to the NGS charity. Teas will be on sale at The Lighthouse.

Bagshot Village Band will be playing some light music on the front lawn as well as our own Concert Band. We ask that children involved in the music be in school uniform, ready to set up, at 1430 (location to be determined). Year 5 will also be demonstrating maypole dancing and should be ready at 1425.

We are particularly hoping that children will take the opportunity to show grandparents and or other elderly relatives around the school and grounds.

Apples, Apples, Apples.....

Once again this year we will be juicing and bottling our apple harvest, and hope to have a supply of Hall Grove Apple Juice ready for sale on the day of our garden opening on October 2nd. If you have apples from a tree in your garden that you are happy to donate, please deliver them to school before next Thursday. Windfalls are fine, minor bruising is acceptable providing it is less than a quarter of the surface area of the apple. The collection place will be on the lawn in front of the Lighthouse. Collection starts on Monday and finishes on Thursday.

Sport

It was wonderful to see so much sport being played on Saturday morning. Our girls in years 5,6,7 and 8 enjoyed two hours of intense training lead by Mr Quartermaine and the girls' games staff. The girls worked hard on all aspects of their games and are showing good progress, laying down firm foundations that we are confident will result in success over the coming weeks.

The U13 boys had a very successful morning, winning the Hall Grove Tournament against strong opposition. Well done to all the players, especially those drafted in at the eleventh-hour following injuries within the squad. It is wonderful to have good strength to call upon when required. The U11s finished a very creditable 3rd following a tough start to their season against Hoe Bridge earlier in the week, showing great determination and a real desire to win.

Wednesday saw all the boys and girls play fixtures against Eagle House, out of 21 matches for both boys and girls we had 14 wins, 6 loses and 1 draw. The girls U13A team are particularly impressed with their new hockey shirts. On Thursday, the U11 boys played in the Surrey Cup against Cranmore in a very physical game. At half time, the match was finely poised at 1-1 but momentum shifted, and Cranmore won the game. This means the boys now join the Surrey Cup plate competition, and we wish them well.

Mr Tullett has been delighted with those attending early morning training, the girls and boys are working hard but having fun doing their running drills, rep sessions and relays. All are welcome from years 3 – 8. Sessions are on Tuesdays and Fridays, starting promptly at 0730. There will be a quick snack after the children have changed back into their uniform before heading to form time. We do ask that children **do not** bring any food to school but do remember a water bottle. Please contact Mr Tullett if you have any further questions.

Fixtures

Please use the school website to check for fixture selection and timings. Girls in Years 5 and 6 will train in both hockey and netball on Saturday morning.

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.

School Adverts

Parents and staff social bike ride – Sunday 19th September

We are delighted to be offering a social bike ride to the well-known Velolife café, in Warren Row, near Maidenhead, on Sunday 19th September. We aim to meet at Hall Grove at 0900 for a prompt getaway by 0915. We will return by 1200. Please note that a road bike is required and the Hall Grove peleton will average around 15mph on the journey. We look forward to seeing many of you there. Please email either Mr Lewis (t.lewis@hallgrove.co.uk) or Mr Tullett (i.tullett@hallgrove.co.uk) with any questions.

Macmillan Coffee Morning – Friday 24th September

Please join us in the Lighthouse for delicious tea, coffee and cake from 0830 until 1000. All cakes are to be made by parents so please please don your aprons and bring along your favourite goodies (label ingredients for allergy purposes). Thank you so much in advance. Mrs Tomlin

Hall Grove Instagram Account

The Hall Grove Instagram account has come alive. Please follow **hallgroveschool** for beautiful photos of all things Hall Grove! Mrs Tomlin is running it. You may also enjoy following the Hall Grove house rabbits @balooandbounce who have a following of 5000 fans.

School Uniform Shop Opening Times

Term Time Only Opening Times

Mondays & Tuesdays 0800 – 0900

Thursdays 1500 – 1700

To access the on-line Uniform Shop service please visit The Direct Clothing Company website and follow the link to Hall Grove School. There are also instructions on the school website.

The Uniform Shop email: uniformshop@hallgrove.co.uk

The Direct Clothing Company: <https://www.thedirectclothing.co.uk/school/hall-grove-school/>

Public Notices

Documents

The following documents can be found on the school website, under the parent information tab:

- Senior Schools Open Mornings Information
- Half Term Camps

Car Parking

Please do not park outside Badgers Cottage, the DT Workshop or the Vine Cottage area. These are either private accommodation addresses or where school minibuses need to manoeuvre, and we wish to avoid congestion or a bump.

Uniform Shop – Job Vacancies

After 14 years running the uniform shop at Hall Grove, Kirsty and Helyna have decided to move on to pastures new. Subsequently we are looking for 2 new members of staff to run the Uniform Shop onsite. The job is customer facing and amounts to approximately 4-5 hours a week, depending on the time of year. If you are interested in this role, please email Paul Fisher on paul.fisher@directclothing.co.uk and he will provide more information on salary/job description etc.

Noah Cosby

Noah Cosby has just turned 17 years old and on 7th March 2021, his life was turned upside down when during a practice session on his beloved dirt bike resulted in a tragic fall which resulted in Noah breaking his back in two places. Throughout the entire process of painful surgeries and complications, Noah has never lost hope of a full recovery and at times of darkness he is the one to still light up the room and comfort his family & friends.

Noah is the best friend of ex Hall Grove pupil Vann Daly, who is also the brother of Ivy in Year 4. Noah's determination tells him he will walk again but to have any chance of recovery, Noah needs full-time physiotherapy, He needs hydrotherapy. He needs robotic stimulation. He needs options and therapies that are only available through the private sector, all of which come with a hefty price tag.

To further support Noah Cosby's rehabilitation, a charity walk is being held at Noah & Vann's current school. The target is to cover 9545.67 Kilometres (the distance from the Olympic and Paralympic Stadium in Tokyo back to Stowe) and to raise £10,000. It would be even better to exceed this target.

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stoweschoolwalkfornoah?utm_term=K4xj7Nrw4

Cancer Research UK – Shine Night Walk Fundraising Event

Will Rhodes, ex-pupil and GAP Student, will be taking part, with family and friends, in the Shine Night Walk fundraiser event on 25th September 2021.

On the 25th of September 2020, Will's father sadly passed away having battled with a rare disease called Neuromyelitis Optica. Family and friends wanted to do something for the anniversary of his passing and thought that the Shine Night Walk around the city of London, a place that he adored, would be a rather fitting way to celebrate his amazing 54 years of life.

If you would like to donate towards Will's giving page, then please do so by clicking on the link below.

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/williams-giving-page-320>

Half Term Netball Camp

Georgie Maxfield will be running a half-term camp for Year 5-6-7 in Wellington College netball centre RG45 7PT. Places are limited - please contact her directly, see flyer on the website.