

From the Headmaster – Neil Tomlin OBE

It has been impressive to watch the children and staff get out of the blocks without any requirement to stretch. With that spirit in mind, these opening comments are focused on some important initiatives and some dates for your diaries.

Year Group Reps and Webinar. Towards the end of last term, we set out our plans for even better communications. Important to these plans were the formal appointment of Parent Year Group Representatives and the Headmaster's Webinar. The Year Group Reps are in the process of establishing their processes with Section Heads and they will develop their communication links over the coming days. We will launch the first Headmaster's Webinar on Monday evening (1800-1830). The agenda of this 30-minute briefing is: Strategy Development (10 mins), the thoughts behind the development of a revised school reading plan (10 mins), and Platinum Jubilee celebrations (10 Mins). Please join the webinar using the [following link](#). (password: HGwebinar)

Hall Grove expedition. We will set out our vision for the Hall Grove expedition on Wed 19 Jan (1900-1930). Whilst the intended target audience are parents of Years 6 and 7 children, the proposal is that all children from 2023 will take part in the expedition when they are in Year 8. Please join the webinar using the link below:

<https://weareworldchallenge.zoom.us/j/96778378017>

Senior Lecture. Angela Mortimer will deliver our 5th Senior Lecture to Years 7 and 8 on Thursday 20th January (1800-1900). Angela leads the city recruitment company 'Angela Mortimer'. She will talk about the lessons she has learned in the city. Parents from across the whole school are most welcome to join the presentation in the New Hall.

Senior schools fair. Please can we draw you attention to the Senior Schools Fair that will take place on Wed 2 Feb (1700-2000). We have invited about 20 schools and many have agreed to attend. The evening will include a centrally coordinated Q&A session for parents. We will ask for attendance returns in next week's letter.

And finally. It has been most impressive to see the level of effort the children have applied to their Declamations. We will look forward to the final on 26 January (1830-2000) to be judged by Mrs Liz Hewer, Headmistress of St George's Ascot School.

Whole School Messages

Updated Covid Protocol

As you may be aware, the government has made changes to the Covid guidance, in particular in relation to the length of self-isolation. We have updated our Covid Protocol (attached) to reflect the guidance coming into effect this Monday 17 January and would urge all parents to read it carefully.

The Drive

Parents are reminded of the importance of several key points which allow the drive to flow as smoothly as possible both in the morning and the evening. It is essential that parents adhere to the published timings around collection, and this includes collection from After School Clubs. It is particularly important that parents DO NOT leave their vehicle if collecting via the turning circle at

the Lighthouse. If parents wish to leave their vehicle to collect their child, they should park on the netball courts and walk down to the Lighthouse.

Hall Grove Dance Academy

We have been delighted to see so many students participate in the taster sessions for the Dance Academy this week. We are looking forward to launching the classes on Monday next week and hope that many students will wish to book into the Academy. If you wish to sign your child(ren) onto the sessions, you can do so using [this link](#).

The fee for the sessions will be as follows:

1 session = £50 per term

2 sessions = £60 per term

3 sessions = £75 per term

Term dates

The sessions will run alongside the normal school term dates. Please note, there will also be no classes taking place on Wednesday 9th February, due to the Year 5 Cabaret performance.

Snack and aftercare

Children who book onto the sessions will be given a snack before their session. If your child books onto a later session, they will be supervised in aftercare in the meantime. Collection will be from the drive.

Uniform

Students will be encouraged to change into their school PE kit ahead of the session, so that they have greater flexibility for movement. Therefore, school PE kit will need to be returned to school the following day, in preparation for games and PE lessons. If your child requires specific dance shoes, such as ballet or tap shoes, they can be purchased from local dance shops. Miss Erridge would be more than happy to advice parents on what your child(ren) may need.

EYFS and Pre-Prep

We ask that parents of any Pre-School or Reception children stay with the children during their dance taster session tomorrow. This will give you an opportunity to see what happens during the class!

If you have any questions, please email Miss Erridge (l.erridge@hallgrove.co.uk).

Music with Mindy

The music class run by Mrs Greenwood will start on Monday 24th January and is designed for children aged 1-3. If you are interested in signing your child and yourself up to this class, please contact

music@hallgrove.co.uk.

Burns Night (Fri 4 Feb – 1900)

We will host a Burn's Night on Friday 4th February in New Hall from 1900. Dress: smart casual with a 'touch of tartan'. In preparation for the night, please join us for a Reels practice on Friday 28 January from 1900. This will be a light-hearted and fun Burns Night. Costs tbc but likely to be £30-40 per head. Please sign up for the practice and the main evening via the links.

Reels Practice (Fri 28 Jan 1900 – New Hall)

<https://forms.office.com/r/JuDg6MVPxV>

Burns Night (Fri 4 Feb 1900 – New Hall)

<https://forms.office.com/r/SH3S2PpCQ1>

Years 3 and 4 'Nessy' sessions

Years 3 and 4 pupils who have been invited to attend Nessy sessions on Tuesdays 0800-0830 and Wednesdays at 1600-1630 will start back this week. Please can parents collecting children from the Wednesday evening session meet their child/children outside the Lighthouse.

Senior Parents - Mr McLeod

Senior Lecture Series

The Spring Term Lectures begin on Thursday 20th January with Angela Mortimer discussing the life lessons learned during her running of a company in the city.

As previously, children will be supervised and provided with a meal following the end of school. The lecture runs from 1800 to 1900, with collection at 1915 at the turning circle. Pupils are expected to attend all lectures and parents are welcome at any point.

Required Equipment

Please could all Senior pupils ensure that they have wired headphones or earphone for use with their Chromebook.

Pupil Planners/Diaries

The pupil planner remains the main method of communication between school and home. Please could we request that planners are seen and signed by parents at least weekly.

Collection following Extension Sessions

To speed up collection following Year 8 Extension Sessions, please could Year 8 children attending these sessions be collected from the hard tennis courts at 1735.

Senior French Resources – Mr White and Mr Korzeniowski

We have identified an excellent online resource (<https://www.linguno.com>) which will greatly help your child in learning and improving French verb conjugation. We are by no means stepping away from Quizlet, which remains the ideal platform for learning and retaining vocabulary. The two websites complement one another.

Please would you complete the sign-up process for Linguno at home and ensure that your child writes down login details in their diary, so that we can start using Linguno on the chromebooks at school next week.

Hall Grove expedition. We will set out our vision for the Hall Grove expedition on Wed 19 Jan (1900-1930). Whilst the intended target audience are parents of Years 6 and 7 children, the proposal is that all children from 2023 will take part in the expedition when they are in Year 8. Please join the webinar using the link below:

<https://weareworldchallenge.zoom.us/j/96778378017>

LFD Testing

Senior pupils have been provided with further test kits and we encourage them to continue with twice weekly LFD testing following the return to school. Results should be reported to the NHS and to the school.

Year 8 Introduction to Boarding night

Year 8 have an optional 'Introduction to Boarding' night on Friday 21st January. This will be an overnight stay at school, allowing the children to get a taste of boarding life at Hall Grove and a feel for boarding in general. This may be helpful to open the options of future senior schools that offer full, weekly or flexi boarding.

The evening will include an evening activity, followed by pizza, and a film on our return to school. The children will stay at school at the end of the day and should be collected at 0900 on Saturday morning.

The cost is £20 per child. This will include an evening activity, supper and breakfast on Saturday morning before collection. Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like your child to take part, [please click here](#).

Upper Juniors Parents - Mr Wheeler

I would like to wish you all a belated Happy New Year and I hope 2022 has got off to a wonderful start. It has been great to welcome back the children this week and they have jumped right back into school life, and I could not be more pleased with the way they have started – a real highlight being the excitement of Declamations in our English lessons.

My message to your children in assembly this week was to embrace the section motto, "Control the things you can control, and the rest will fall into place." As you know it is a message that I feel is incredibly important and if they are receiving similar messages at home and do their absolute best to follow them, they will have a brilliant term. On this theme, our determination and effort will undoubtedly be tested at the House Cross Country, so we look forward to encouraging the children next Saturday 22nd January.

Year 5 Cabaret Evening Wednesday 9th February

We are extremely excited about our Cabaret style evening which will be titled 'Dashing Through the Decades'. The children will transport their audience from the 1920s all the way up to 2020 with dances, songs and drama snippets. We ask that parents provide the children's costumes which will be all black. Trousers/leggings with a black T-Shirt will suffice. The New Hall will be transformed into a 'Jazz Club' for the evening and we invite parents to 'BYO' a picnic supper for the event! Round tables will be situated throughout the Hall for parents to sit round to enjoy an evening's entertainment from the Year 5s. Dress code for adults: Black Tie

Hall Grove expedition. We will set out our vision for the Hall Grove expedition on Wed 19 Jan (1900-1930). Whilst the intended target audience are parents of Years 6 and 7 children, the proposal is that all children from 2023 will take part in the expedition when they are in Year 8. Please join the webinar using the link below:

<https://weareworldchallenge.zoom.us/j/96778378017>

Pupil Diaries

The pupil diary remains the main method of communication between school and home. Please could we request that diaries are seen and signed by parents at least weekly.

Lower Junior Parents - Miss Furness

Everyone has settled back into the rhythm of school happily. Could I please politely remind parents that lessons start at 0830, we would appreciate it if the children could aim to be in school for 0815 so that we are able to register and get them ready for their first lesson.

We are proud of all the children for working so hard at learning their poems for the Declamations. Semi-Finalists will perform on Tuesday to the Section and from that Finalists will be presenting to parents and judges on Wednesday 26th January at 1830.

We look forward to encouraging the children during the House Cross-Country, next Saturday 22nd January at 0900.

Once again, I would like to express the importance of the children having their black school coat and wellies in school. Fleeces are fine as an extra layer but are not helpful when we have rainy weather. Please also ensure all clothing and items brought into school are named.

I am now in touch with the parent reps for the Section. Mrs Bruce, Mrs Daly, and Mrs Houghton are representatives for Year 4; Mrs Bath, Mrs Butcher, and Mrs Prentice are representatives for Year 3. I shall be having regular meetings with this team about key events and fundraising opportunities. We hope that by working together we are able to improve the communications between home and school. No confidential business will be discussed during these meetings, but if there are niggles within the parent body, please do speak with the parent representatives and I will endeavour to resolve any issues.

Pre-Prep Parents - Miss Hitchcox

This week Hall Grove was the setting for Jurassic Park as Dinosaurs invaded Pre-Prep. The Year 1 children put on their palaeontologist hats to excavate and brush fossils, whilst learning lots of interesting facts. The afternoon was full of fun as all of Pre-Prep attended an incredibly special dinosaur assembly where they met baby triceratops and velociraptor. However, the highlight of the day was meeting Sophie the Tyrannosaurus Rex – what a treat for everyone!

It is 'Dinosaur Day' in Year 1 on Friday 28th January where the children can come to school dressed up as their favourite dinosaur. It is going to be a lot of fun.

Year 2 have commenced their trip 'Around the World.' They have been busily exploring facts about the United Kingdom and creating exciting information pages on their findings. They ended the week with a delicious afternoon tea, whereby they enjoyed the scones that they baked.

If your child is attending an outdoor after school club, they will leave their blazer in school and go home in their black coat, which they return to school wearing the next day. Please do not come back into school to collect your child's blazer as it is safe on their peg overnight. We hope that this system will help to keep track of the children's clothing and make sure they have what they need each day. Finally, a reminder that classroom supervision for siblings of older children starts at 8am. Please can you adhere to these timings to ensure the safety of your child.

Dance Academy Taster Saturday 15th January

Further to our most recent communication, we would now ask that parents of any Pre-School or Reception children stay with the children during their dance taster session tomorrow. This will give you an opportunity to see what happens during the class!

If you have any questions, please email Miss Erridge (l.erridge@hallgrove.co.uk).

Early Years Parents - Mrs Tomlinson

Dance Academy Taster Saturday 15th January

Further to our most recent communication, we would now ask that parents of any Pre-School or Reception children stay with the children during their dance taster session tomorrow. This will give you an opportunity to see what happens during the class!

If you have any questions, please email Miss Erridge (l.erridge@hallgrove.co.uk).

Phonics Workshop Wednesday 19th January at 1900.

We look forward to welcoming you all to the New Hall on Wednesday to find out more about Phonics at Hall Grove. We will be offering refreshments from 1845. We will be covering the different Phases of Letters and Sounds, reading at home, Phonics and reading activities for your child and our approach to writing and mark making.

Contacting your child's teacher.

Please can we ask that you do not call directly to The Barn telephone regarding lateness, absence or to leave messages. Please use the main school number, email your child's teacher directly or use your child's Communication Book to write a note. This will ensure important messages can be dealt with as well as causing less disruption for the children during lesson time.

Performing Arts - Miss Post

Music

Informal Concerts

We are looking forward to the start of this term's weekly Informal Lunchtime Concert Series. First up are our pianists next Tuesday at 1305 in the Performance Studio. If your child would like to perform and learns outside of school, please email music@hallgrove.co.uk over the weekend, with the title and composer of the piece.

Choristers

Please could any parent who has not informed Miss Post whether their child is attending the Battisborough Trip on the 12th-16th February, let her know as soon as possible.

Music Practice Club

Music Practice Club runs on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and is open to any child who learns a musical instrument in Year 2 upwards. These are half hour sessions where your child can practice in the Music Department under the supervision of one of the music staff free of charge for

half an hour. The sessions are at 1600-1630, 1630-1700 and 1700-1730. If you would like to sign your child up to one session please email music@hallgrove.co.uk

Sport - Mr Tullett

The senior boys and girls made a fantastic start to 2022 recording 13 wins and 1 draw out of 17 rugby and netball matches played against Crosfields school. This week the children have been completing a bleep test in PE and are showing good levels of fitness. It is encouraging to see there was not a drop off during the Christmas holiday, well done parents! Thank you to all who come and support the teams, it is most welcome.

PE lessons

All pupils will require their white PE kit in school on the days they do PE. The pupils of Years 5 and 6 have been asked to come into school in their white PE kit and bring their uniform on the days they have PE before 1100, those after 1100 will change at school.

Year 4 to come to school in PE kit on Thursdays only and bring their uniform to change into after.

Saturday 15th January 2022

0830 Senior Boys Rugby training (amended time)

1000 U11A, U10A Rugby matches v RGS Guildford

1400 Hall Grove U11A and B Netball Tournament.

Please check the website for team selection and further details.

1-1 Tennis Lessons

Weekly 1-1 tennis coaching is available again this term for Years 2 - 8 during the school day with Megan, our resident tennis professional. Lessons will rotate on a weekly basis to ensure pupils do not miss the same academic lesson.

The cost will be £20 per lesson which will be added to your fee invoice.

If you would like to book 1-1 tennis lessons, please [email](#) the school office.

Small Group Golf Lessons

Weekly small group golf lessons are available for Years 3 - 8 during the school day with our resident golf professionals, starting the second week of next term. Lessons will rotate on a weekly basis to ensure pupils do not miss the same academic lesson.

The cost will be £20 per lesson which will be added to your fee invoice.

If you would like to book golf lessons, please [email](#) the school office.

School Adverts

Documents

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

- Senior Schools Open Mornings Information
- February Half Term Activities

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop email: uniformshop@hallgrove.co.uk
The Direct Clothing Company: <https://www.thedirectclothing.co.uk/school/hall-grove-school/>

Term-time only opening times:
Monday: 0800-0915
Thursdays: 1500-1730

Public Notices

Windlesham United FC Youth Girls Football
Windlesham United FC are looking for new players with the aim to further develop Girls Youth Football in the local community.
Please see attached flyer for further information.