



## Headlines

Autumn Term  
7<sup>th</sup> September 2018



“The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils is excellent.”

ISI inspection report

### Letter from the Headmaster

#### Dear Parents

A warm welcome back to you all and I hope the summer allowed for some happy times with your boys. It is great to see them back and filling the school with smiles.

We completed some minor works over the summer, with replacement of flooring, toilet facilities and general decoration.

The start of term is a good time to take stock and set high expectations. We have renewed focus with the boys on important matters such as good manners, how we move around the building with care, starting lessons with diligence and how to treat all, including ourselves, with kindness and compassion.

You are likely to have new form and subject tutors to get to know this year. Please see the Parent Information Handbook for staffing and other useful information (as well as the website).

For basic queries the Form Tutor can usually help; for example, missing uniform, timetables, clarification on behaviour and such. Some queries might need some more care and attention and so the Head of Year can step in to help. Staff are available to speak with you in person at the end of every day at dismissal.

On communications, please bear in mind that colleagues are teaching lessons, covering break and lunch duties, then ‘after hours’, running clubs, conducting department meetings, marking, prep, etc., and so aren’t always able to monitor or respond to emails on the same day. So please do telephone with any urgent matters and a message will be relayed.

You may be pleased to note that we are working on a more streamlined homework timetable, as I felt it was becoming rather cluttered and confusing (especially if, like me and quite a few of our boys, you happen to be colour-blind and trying to follow colour coding on a two-week cycle... help!).

Please do turn overleaf to find a really fun opportunity for the boys, set up by Mr Smith of the Sports Department: We have an online fantasy football league starting up, plus an area for parents and staff to join in too.

To finish with a celebratory note, we saw top effort from senior boys at two national chess championships as we went into the summer. It was also pleasing to note success in drama and a fine set of LAMDA results, with particular kudos going to Jijith and Idhant, both awarded a merit for their Grade 6. They have also been awarded a Bronze Medal and 10 UCAS points each towards their university application. Wow!

**John Towers**  
Headmaster



## Early Years Department

A very warm welcome to you all after such a lovely long summer holiday. We hope you had a restful summer and are ready for the new school year ahead. It has been lovely to see all the existing boys returning with so much enthusiasm. We'll be well done to all our new starters who have settled well into their new school.

Just a little reminder: please ensure your son has the correct uniform.

If you require a copy of the uniform list, please speak to your son's class teacher. Please also ensure all of your son's uniform is clearly and securely named as we don't want anything to go missing. Also, if you could send us in a recent photograph for your son's coat peg it will make it easier for him to find his coat and PE bag.



## Junior Department

It was lovely to see all the boys back after the holiday and also to welcome 20 new boys to the department. They have all settled in extremely well and have been well looked after by their class mates. We are also delighted to have Mrs Bartlett joining us in the Junior Department and she is working with our Year 3 boys.

Parents will have all received an information letter outlining administrative details in each year group.

We look forward to seeing parents at our Welcome and Curriculum Evening on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September from 6.30pm to 7.30pm.

Our Parents' evenings this term are being held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October. Further details to follow.

Year 3 are looking forward to an outing to Bough Beech Water Treatment Works on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September.

## Homefield Heroes

**1H Aadam** for making a great start to life at Homefield. Well done!

**1H Shomik** for making a great start to life at Homefield. Well done!

**1S Siva** for his enthusiastic approach to his first week in Year 1. Well done, Siva!

**2H Ethan** for settling so well into life at Homefield.

**2S Arthav and Olivier** for a great start to their time at Homefield.

**3H Jake** for demonstrating lovely manners and being helpful to others; an excellent start to your Homefield career.

**3S George** for demonstrating his fantastic speaking and listening skills this week.

## Music

### Instrumental Music Lessons

Most Individual lessons will start w/c 10<sup>th</sup> September except for new starters who will receive their first lesson by the following week. (Unfortunately, Mr Legg is unable to start guitar lessons until 20<sup>th</sup> September as he has to attend the all-day safeguarding course for Croydon Music Service teachers on 13<sup>th</sup> September.) Please note next week and the week after will be a skeleton timetable - lesson days may well be different in future weeks and some boys will be having a regular slot before or after school once the timetable is up and running properly.

Details of instruments available fees etc. are detailed in the attached document. Any queries please email me directly rather than the Front Office or Form Tutors:

[ameyers@homefieldprep.school](mailto:ameyers@homefieldprep.school)

### Congratulations

Many congratulations to the following boys who passed music exams at the end of last term:

#### Piano

Zain M Year 5 - Grade 4

Prabodha A Year 5 - Grade 3 Merit

George G Year 6 - Grade 2 Pass

Adrian C Year 7 - Grade 1 Distinction

Madi S Year 5 - Grade 1

#### Singing

Shankar Year 5 - Grade 2 Distinction

## Learning Resources Centre

All boys up to Year 4 will be receiving one of our new book bags which are made from 100% cotton, therefore reducing the use of plastic bags. Please ensure that your son's LRC bag is clearly labelled with his name. Should the bag go astray, there will be a small charge of £3.00 for a replacement.





## Parents' Association

Welcome back to everyone, especially to any new parents. There are plenty of ways to get involved in the Homefield Parents' Association this year and we would love to have your support. We start the year by voting in new Committee members at our AGM. This will take place at our Coffee Morning on Friday 21st September and will take about 10 minutes. This is a great opportunity for new parents to meet other parents in the school and for us to talk more about what the HA does. If you would like to be involved in planning our events on the HA team or as a Class Rep, please get in touch with Lizby Sharpe on Classlist. We are also looking for a new Secretary and for someone to design posters for us - look out for the job descriptions on Classlist!

If you haven't signed up to Classlist yet, please register at [www.classlist.com/](http://www.classlist.com/) or download the free Classlist app.

Dates for the diary:

Coffee Morning and AGM	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> September 8.30am
Class Reps Meeting	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> October 8.30am
Fireworks Night	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> November 6.00pm (7.30pm display)
Christmas Coffee Morning	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> November 8.30am
Christmas Fair	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 3.45pm



## Club News

### Judo

The new term for the Homefield Judo Club will start on Wednesday 12th September:

Years 1 and 2 from 3.20-4.05pm

Years 3, 4, 5,6, 7 and 8 from 4.15 - 5.00pm

The first lesson is a FREE TRIAL FOR ALL BOYS wishing to try Judo for the first time. The cost thereafter is £80 per term including kit hire.

For further information and to enrol your son or re-join please contact Josie Horton on 07889869859 or [hortonjo@gmail.com](mailto:hortonjo@gmail.com).

A lifetime sport, providing benefit irrespective of age or physical athleticism, Judo goes far beyond knowing how to protect yourself and can provide a positive vehicle for change in students' lives. Judo is about self-discipline, technique, focus and respect. Taught responsibly in a safe environment, students learn much more than just how to protect themselves, they develop confidence, self-belief and determination.

There are many other benefits too, some of which are listed below:

- Self-esteem and self-awareness
- Concentration
- Improved fitness and co-ordination
- Social interaction and making friendships outside of the classroom
- Respect for others and yourself
- Greater humility
- A sense of achievement, building both physical and emotional resilience
- Self-defence

### Spanish

There are still some spaces available for Extra Curricular Spanish Club, join us! Information offered on the school website.



## Fantasy Football Competition

After some friendly competition last year when Mr Smith was reminded each week by several pupils that he had scored fewer points than them, this year there will be an official Homefield Premier League Fantasy Football Competition! Using the Premier League's official platform, 'Fantasy Premier League', pupils, parents and staff of Homefield School can join a league and enjoy friendly competition with others in our Homefield community. For any current boys and parents interested in joining, simply follow the steps in the document attached to the ParentMail which accompanied this Headlines. The attachment explains how to sign up, how to join one of the Homefield leagues and also has some important things to consider before signing up. With £100m to spend on 15 Premier League players, the deadline to sign up and join a Homefield league is in just over a week! We look forward to getting this friendly competition up and running. Who will win the trophy at the end of the season? It could be you or your son!





## Learning Technologies - Firefly

We are in the process of issuing Firefly accounts to all of our new boys and checking with our returning boys that they can log onto Firefly at home by using their previous username and password. Please work with your son over the next week to help him access this resource. We would like to remind you that we have a dedicated Firefly email address should you require some support using the platform. Please use the following email address [firefly@homefieldprep.school](mailto:firefly@homefieldprep.school) should you need to get in contact. We will aim to get back to you as soon as we can.

Please save or make a note of the Firefly email address in your address book within your email account. Queries about homework or subject related matters should either go to the Form Tutor or subject teacher in the first instance. Please refer to the staffing and our email contact addresses within the Parent Information Handbook or on our website for further details.

It has been brought to our attention that some parents may have been using the messaging option within Firefly to contact teachers.

This has not been enabled and therefore staff will have not received any previous communication that you may have sent. We ask that any future communications regarding Firefly are either done via the support email address [firefly@homefieldprep.school](mailto:firefly@homefieldprep.school), or by directly emailing the member of staff in question via their school email address. All staff email addresses can be found on our website on the About Us page, within the Staff section.



### Tweet of the Week

 Homefield Prep School @HomefieldSchool · Sep 5  
It was great to welcome back the boys in school today and to see so many new smiling faces at assembly this morning #startoterm



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### Social Media

Keep abreast with Homefield news as it happens....



'Homefield Sp0rt' has its own Twitter page. Follow us for all the latest sports news, fixtures and information at Homefield!



<https://twitter.com/HomefieldSchool>  
<https://twitter.com/HomefieldSp0rt>

### Events for Next Week

#### Monday:

Year 4 Team Building Day – 'Wise Up'  
Internal CAT/progress/NFER assessments

#### Tuesday:

U10 Football A – D teams v Willington & Knightsbridge (a) @ Willington Playing Fields, off Preston Road, SW20 0SS Start 2.15pm Finish 3.15pm Return 4.00pm  
Internal CAT/progress/NFER assessments

#### Wednesday:

Internal CAT/progress/NFER assessments

#### Thursday:

Internal CAT/progress/NFER assessments

#### Friday:

Year 8 Geography Rivers Fieldtrip @ Juniper Hall, Dorking Depart 8.45am Return 4.00pm  
Internal CAT/progress/NFER assessments