

Man on top again.
Maybe from the
madness something
beautiful will grow...

1898. The Daily Vanguard

SURVIVORS FOUND

As life returns to normal, the question of another attack from Mars causes universal concern. Is our planet safe, or is this time of peace merely a reprieve?

Headlines

Autumn Term
6th December 2019

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

ISI inspection report



Year 8 survive immersive 'War of The Worlds' experience

Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents

The end of Autumn Term approaches and, as is tradition, some celebration and song to thank you as we finish. We have events for parents and have been supporting the local community: for example, the older boys have entertained the elderly folk with music at the Star and Garter home. If you want some real feel-good cheer then do please come to our Senior Carol Concert at Trinity Church next Wednesday evening at 6.30pm, which is open to parents throughout the school.

When we return after the Christmas break we anticipate our building programme to be underway. The new classroom block to the rear of the school goes up first and should be finished by late summer. We will update you as we go with news, photos and social media feeds and the boys will also get a chance to be involved and learn (safely!) from the process.

A couple of years ago I asked you to complete some questionnaires on parent views. It is a good time to return to that, we can see how matters have improved and look at current issues to take forward.

For some, 'no news is good news', as last time only around 50% of parents responded. Of those that did, we know that the vast majority found the School to be 'excellent' overall. Even if you feel that everything is dandy we would still like to hear back from you as your opinion can validate what is going well and so helps us with delivering it.

For example: when we last did the questionnaires we found the extra-curricular clubs were really appreciated. Our response was to do more and so we moved from providing an impressive 60+ clubs a week to around 100 now. We also found a real favour for our school trips... so we now do more, in more subjects and in more year groups. All as a result of gaining this useful data. So don't delay and please give just 5 minutes of your time to share your views.

It's all on-line and very simple (PS if you have more than one child here it might be easier to do just one return and you can add comments to the free text box). Click here to go to login to the survey:

<https://survey-gl-assessment.co.uk/s/UISYR/>

Finally, last words here for Mr Dan Fish, husband to Tina, a Doctor, and a parent to two lovely boys, Harry in Year 6 and his older brother Ben who graduated from us to Sutton Grammar. It was encouraging to see so many kind Homefield parents supporting the family at the funeral this week. I will miss my chats to Dan at pick up, sometimes about his boys' education but more often than not about our bicycling kit and other affable middle-aged man matters.

Have a good weekend and I look forward to seeing many of you over the next week.

John Towers
Headmaster

Early Years Department

Thank you to all who came to watch our Christmas Nativity of 'A Little Bird Told Me'. I think you will all agree with me when I say the boys were true stars. The teachers were so proud of them all for being able to learn all their lines, have confidence to speak in front of a hall full of people, learn and sing all those songs, with actions, and finally know where to go and when, whilst on the stage. Not bad for 3-5 year olds!

Well done to all the boys who decorated a jam jar for the Christmas Fair! They were so beautiful and it was a very hard choice, but our 3 winners are:

- Aldous in Elephants
- Arjun in Monkeys
- Euan in Tigers



Junior Department

On Tuesday 26th November, we were treated to a very informative and interesting assembly from 2H. The subject was 'The Continents' and it really appealed to us all and everyone learnt a great deal. This week 1H, in their assembly, talked to us about 'Kindness' and they shared their own experiences of kindness and what we can do to be kind.

Last Friday, afternoon Year 3 enjoyed a 2-hour workshop run by Sarah Armitage, from Action Aid. She told the boys of the work that has been done supporting the Adivasi people who live in the rural village of Chembakolli, India. This was a fantastic opportunity to extend their learning experience and find out from a first-hand source, what life is like for these people. Sarah showed photographs and artefacts from her visits to the village and the students were able to touch, feel and smell. They tried on traditional garments (both men's and women's) and experienced carrying filled water containers on their heads! Whilst the workshop focused on village life in India, the boys learned about the different forms of transport from international air travel into the modern city, to the tuk tuks of small towns and jeeps and bicycles for travelling on unmade roads through the forest.

As we approach the last 4 days of term, we will still be busy with lots of Christmas activities, fun and games. The boys have worked extremely hard this half term and are in need of a lovely break to recharge their batteries. Just a reminder the last day of term is Thursday 12th when we will be holding our Christmas party, and there will be no school on Friday 13th December.

Boys, please remember your Christmas jumpers on the last day of school!



They had the opportunity to appreciate the wide variation in landscape, climate and lifestyles; an important part of the global citizenship and geography curriculum.

Last weekend, the Year 1 boys all made musical instruments as part of their Science topic. We were amazed by the array of different designs and indeed they made some interesting sounds! The boys were very enthusiastic demonstrating them to each other. Thank you to all the parents for their support with this project.

In Religious Studies, Year 3 have been studying Islam. The boys have created mosques at home and have done an excellent job. The boys were given instructions that each mosque had to contain a fountain, minaret and also have a domed roof. The boys will be using the mosques in the last week of term to complete their Islam unit.

Our Special Award go to:

Aidan in Elephants for learning all the Nativity songs and singing them so enthusiastically.

Our Students of the Week are:

Hussain in Tigers for always trying hard in all areas of the curriculum.

Raymin in Tigers for great behaviour
Arjun in Monkeys for independently completing number bonds to 10.

Junxi in Monkeys for always contributing his ideas during class discussions.

Homefield Heroes

1H Faiz for attempting lots of the Maths challenges, **Rishi** for being a helpful member of 1H and always looking out for his friends and **Peter** for great contributions to class discussions. Well done, boys!

1S Eric for making a great effort with everything and for being very helpful, **Yusuf** for great work in Mathematics, **Evan** for excellent presentation of all his work and **Raveesh** for his great interest in everything and for his super contributions during discussions. Well done, boys!

2H Mikael for great enthusiasm and interest in all lessons particularly in History this week and **Nicholas** for remaining focussed and producing outstanding maths work this week.

2S Joshua for always being ready to learn and keen to do his best and **Jack** for sharing his knowledge and experiences and always being quick to help others.

3H Charlie for his huge enthusiasm for all things at school, but especially in Geography, where he has acquired extensive knowledge and **Vihaan** for perfect spelling and times tables. He has scored 100% in all spelling tests so far this year.

3S Hardik for showing real determination to improve his own work without being asked, and **Masood** for his outstanding contributions to class.

Junior Department/continued ...

Mr Powell is thrilled with the fantastic creations that are now filling up his classroom! Well done, Year 3!

We were all invited to watch the EYD dress rehearsal of their nativity play called 'A Little Bird Told Me'. It was a fantastic performance and the Junior boys loved watching the younger boys perform.

The last week of term is going to be exciting and festive and the boys are looking forward to our concert on Wednesday. Our thanks go to Mr Meyers and Mrs Walker for organising and rehearsing the music. Next Thursday (12th December) we will be holding our Christmas party in the afternoon. The boys are invited to come to school wearing a Christmas jumper instead of their school jumper. As a mark of charitable donations to those less fortunate, we would appreciate a £1 donation towards the 'Children in Need' charity.

The boys have all worked very hard this term and have approached everything with great enthusiasm. Many thanks to you all for your support. The Junior Department staff wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing the boys in January and hearing all about their holidays.



Mosque projects proudly displayed



Chembakolli workshop in action

Parents' Association

We hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas Fair with fun, games, Santa's Grotto, the raffle, jam jar stall and more! Thank you for coming and your support and a special thanks to all the volunteers for making this event possible.

From the funds raised this term we are able to purchase the following items for the school:

- STEM work bench for the EYD.
- A colour printer for the Art Department.
- Cricket bowling machine for the Sports Department.

These will surely enhance the learning experience of our boys.

Have a lovely last few days of term. We wish you a wonderful time during the festive holidays.

Dates for your diary (Spring term):

HA Meeting

Friday 10th January 8.30am

Class Reps Meeting

Friday 17th January 8.30am

Senior Department Disco

Friday 6th March 6.30pm

Quiz Night

Friday 20th March 7.00pm

Easter Egg Hunt

Thursday 26th March 3.45pm

Fantasy Football

Gamesweek 13 winners

League	Most Points	Team	Manager
Pupils, Parents & Staff	87	Ole Gunnar Get Ya	Mr Hawkins
Year 7 & 8	68	George's Gobsmackers	George
Year 6	82	Sidemen	James
Year 5	64	Premier 11	Rayyan
Year 4	75	Krish's Kings	Krish
Junior	89	Flying FC	Dev
Parents	83	Salah Champions	Safeer B
Staff	87	Ole Gunnar Get Ya	Mr Hawkins
Alumni	64	The Stadium Raiders	James

Gamesweek 14 winners

League	Most Points	Team	Manager
Pupils, Parents & Staff	87	The Gorillas	George
Year 7 & 8	83	Pro Player	Thomas
Year 6	75	Fiery Dragons	Oliver
Year 5	67	Bonson Athletics	Zak
Year 4	87	The Gorillas	George
Junior	63	YEAH!✓	Matty
Parents	64	Mo Selecta!	Nick H
Staff	65	Real Madrigal	Mrs Walker
Alumni	77	The Stadium Raiders	James

Gamesweek 15 winners

League	Most Points	Team	Manager
Pupils, Parents & Staff	74	Olivier's Army	Olivier
Year 7 & 8	69	George's Gobsmackers	George
Year 6	72	Liverpool Champions	David
Year 5	68	Leonardo's Leopards	Leonardo
Year 4	65	Roaring Reds	Vir
Year 4	65	Krish's Kings	Krish
Junior	74	Olivier's Army	Olivier
Parents	73	Salahvation	Yusuf B
Staff	65	Boom Chicka Pow Pow	Mr Powell
Alumni	51	The Stadium Raiders	James

Sports News

House Sport Competitions

On Friday lunchtimes before half term, Mr Smith organised competitions in five sports for boys in Year 7 and 8 to take part in. After half term it has been Year 6 who have enjoyed the five sports. Competing in their house teams, boys participated in badminton, table tennis, basketball, handball and dodgeball. Here are the overall standings, with the team's position in the five sports listed in brackets. Well done to all boys who have taken part!

Year 7 and 8

1st Ellis (1st, 2nd, 2nd, 2nd, 3rd)
=2nd Walfords (1st, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th)
=2nd Grays (1st, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th)
4th Bomfords (3rd, 3rd, 4th, 4th, 4th)

Year 6 (current standings - dodgeball still to be played)

1st - Ellis (1st, 1st, 2nd, 2nd)
2nd - Bomfords (1st, 2nd, 2nd, 4th)
3rd - Grays (1st, 3rd, 3rd, 4th)
4th - Walfords (3rd, 3rd, 4th, 4th)

Judo

The first lesson back next term will be on Wednesday 15th January 2020.

Reception, Years 1 and 2 3.45 – 4.05pm
Years 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 4.15 – 5.00pm

The first lesson is a FREE TRIAL.

Please contact Josie Horton on 07889869859 or hortonjo@googlemail.com if your son is interested in joining the judo club.

Science News

This week, Year 5 have been learning about air resistance as part of their unit on Forces. They carried out an investigation to find out how the size of a parachute affects how quickly the parachute falls. They designed and made their parachutes in the lab before strapping on the brave little action men and testing them out. The boys have reported that as the surface area of the parachute increases, the time to fall also increases, and this is due to a greater amount of air resistance. (No action men were harmed during this experiment!)



English News

War of the Worlds

On Tuesday afternoon all of our Year 8 boys attended an immersive and interactive performance of 'War of the Worlds' by H. G. Wells in London. After studying this text in class, the boys enjoyed interacting with actors, being blasted by aliens and immersing themselves in the dark, dystopian world of Victorian London. Virtual reality, pyrotechnics, holograms and 4D special effects built a realistic and sometimes unnerving atmosphere. Some boys took on leading roles as they were all escorted through the mysterious chambers, re-enacting the story and meeting

recognisable characters along the way. A meal in the 'Spirit of Man' restaurant was a great celebration of their 'survival' at the end! All of the boys actively engaged in the experience sharing and building on their knowledge of the text. Look out for their reviews of the trip!



MySpace

Who doesn't love Lego? Well, certainly here in our Junior MySpace Playtime sessions this week, there was much excitement as we opened our new Space Aircraft set provided to us by the Homefield Parents' Association. There are multiple links to the benefit of Lego beyond its obvious creativity, including the sharing of interests, instructions, co-operation, collaboration and the development of speaking and listening skills. Our boys certainly demonstrated a number of these skills and were sorry for the session to come to an end.

MySpace is an initiative that began last year to support our boy's emotional wellbeing and provide them with a space to talk in age appropriate ways. It is accessible for boys in both the Junior and Senior departments. For the Junior boys, being asked to talk about a specific topic can be more challenging and therefore a more creative approach has been established through the introduction of MySpace Playtime. Adopting a play-based approach helps boys express themselves or talk together about common issues, such as friendships, self-esteem and confidence, in a relaxed environment. Boys are suggested to attend by class teachers as well as requesting to attend themselves. Based on its initial success we now run this twice a week in school. Having our own Lego set to support this has been gratefully received by Mrs O'Reilly and the boys. Thank you for your generous contribution to this provision. Look out for our creative building on our social media pages!



Learning Resources Centre

Many thanks to the Student Librarians for organising a Christmas competition. The boys in the Early Years had to colour a bauble and the Juniors had to complete an acrostic poem. The standard of entries was amazing and results will be announced next week. Just a quick reminder that all LRC books should be back by the 10th December.

A special thank you goes to our Head Librarian, Ohki, for all his hard work over the last two years. He is leaving Homefield at the end of term as his family are relocating overseas.



Tweet of the Week



Homefield Prep Sport
@HomefieldSp0rt

87 points for George's #FPL Team 'The Gorillas' means he is our @OfficialFPL Manager of the Week in #GW14!



5:38 PM · Dec 2, 2019 · [Twitter for Android](#)

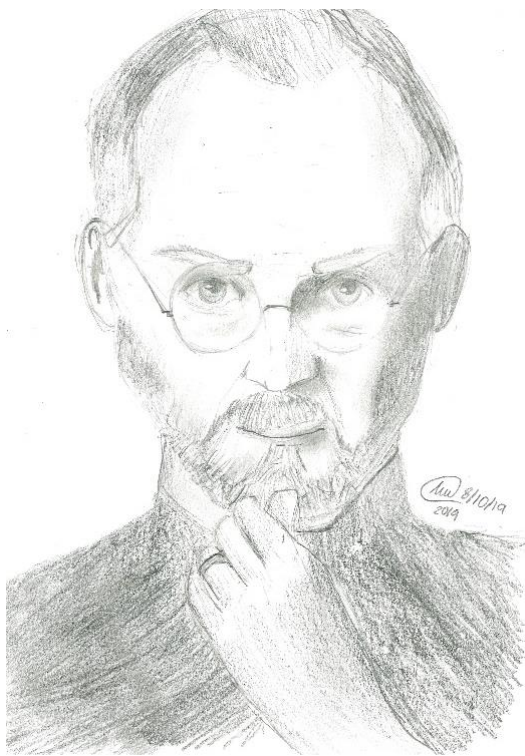
27 Retweets 248 Likes

Keep abreast with Homefield news as it happens...   

Headmaster's Crests

Luke H	Humanities
Rahul S	Humanities
Tejas A	Humanities
Aarush K	Humanities
Andrew Y	Humanities and Achievement
Aahan S	Humanities
Tosan O	Achievement
Parth J	Achievement

The Homefield Art Gallery



Amir, Year 7 - Pencil Portrait