

Headlines

Spring Term
10th February 2023

“The quality of the pupils’ academic and other achievements is excellent.”

ISI inspection report December 2021

Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents

February is the time of year when senior school offers start to percolate. Always lots to celebrate. Some disappointments too, where ambition might not fit with the plans of selective and over-subscribed schools. Our 13 year olds tend to wear the tensions well, but I’m perennially concerned with the weight of expectation placed on some of our more sensitive 10 and 11 year olds. Our final assembly of the half term brought together our thoughts on the National ‘Mental Health’ Week. We appointed 9 boys from both Upper and Lower School as Wellbeing Ambassadors, to help take this forward.

Happy and safe children tend to learn well. So, a moment to honour some strong individual achievement as we approach the halfway point of this school year. Although we await further results, we have the majority of scholarships in. Most are at 13+, but with a good showing at 11+ too. So, for now, we congratulate these boys for going the extra mile with passions for music, drama, sports and academics: Ansh, Music at Eton. Hanlin, Music Exhibition at Eton. Humzah, Academic at both Reigate, and CLFS. Alex, Academic at both Reigate, and Trinity.

Jimmy, Academic at Whitgift. Elliot, Academic and Sports at Box Hill. Jonas, Music at Box Hill. Ryan, Academic at RGS. Charlie, Academic at Caterham. Raghav, Academic at Caterham. Luke, Performing Arts at Caterham. Lewis, Academic and Music at Trinity. Jonathan, Music at Trinity. Nashwan, Academic at Trinity. Yucheng, Academic at Trinity. Arjun, Academic at Whitgift. Amazing work boys! I will return with more results next term.

On celebration, the ‘student work shares’ were a resounding success with a very strong turnout from the parents. The sharing and caring went down so well with the boys taking pride in talking through their work and learning journeys, so we will run this again in the future. I would like to thank you all for taking the time out of your busy days to support this initiative.

Thank you for your support for ‘Number Day’. The Classics Trip for Year 7 to Bath was a winner on Tuesday as were a really challenging set of home and away fixtures for our rugby teams over the last week. We appreciate the many parents who have braved the cold conditions to cheer on from the side-lines.

To finish on a sombre note, you will have followed the tragic news from Epsom College this week. The College has asked for time and space to process and deal with these events. In the meantime, our Heads of Year are ready to converse with any boys who may have places at Epsom for 2023-24 and are concerned. We will wait to hear from their pastoral team and work together. Our thoughts are with the wider community as they come to terms with the heart-breaking and tragic events.

Kind regards and enjoy a peaceful half term,

John Towers
Headmaster

Lower School: Reception, Years 1 and 2

Reception

In Reception, we have continued our topic of 'Ready, Steady, Grow' by reading 'Supertato'. We discussed the concept of good and bad characters and the role of the villain in these texts. The evil pea from the story was a firm favourite and the boys enjoyed completing an assortment of vegetable related activities ranging from painting to playing with 'pea soup'.



In Maths, we have continued our topic of equals and sharing amounts into equal groups. We are confident that equals means 'the same' and enjoyed problem solving when the number of groups changed. Some boys were able to use their knowledge of times tables to mentally share in their heads. Freddie in RH said, "Well I know that 16 goes into groups of 4 because 4×4 is 16!" The Reception boys loved our Number Day for the NSPCC and we took part in a parade with Years 1 and 2 to showcase our hats. It was so wonderful to see such creative ideas such as odd and even hats!

Junior Park Run

Bertie in Reception has been busy running and exercising at home. At the end of last year, he achieved enough Junior Park Runs to be awarded a half marathon distance wristband. He recently joined 'PE with Joe' to take part in a family fun-run in Nonsuch Park. Bertie regularly joins in with Joe Wicks workouts at home, so getting to meet him was very exciting.



Years 1 and 2

In Year 1 we have continued our art project with an interpretation of Monet's 'Water Lily Pond'. It was so wonderful to see the boys' take on a famous piece of art!

In our History topic of significant individuals, we learnt about Mary Seacole and the role she played in the nursing profession. In Geography, we designed and made a flood resistant house out of Lego. Our budding architects and engineers had to creatively design a house to protect it from the elements. We saw lots of quality collaborative work and problem solving.

In English, we concluded our 'Through the Magic Mirror' topic by comparing and contrasting things that took place in different locations of the story and completed a comprehension based on the text.

Our Maths topic has focused on subtraction and how to use a number line.

In Year 2 this week, we had a TPR lesson where we learnt what it means to belong to a group. We reflected upon how we 'belong' at Homefield in a range of capacities such as a class group, a House or a club.

In Science, we looked at how wax is waterproof and then created a piece of wax artwork using watercolours to illustrate this understanding. In our Geography topic of oceans, we created detailed collages of the sea which required lots of patience, determination and creativity.



In Drama, we continued with our rehearsals for the 'Not-So Creepy-Crawlies', which we are very excited to be performing after the half term break.

Homefield Heroes

RH Bernardo for making a new friend and working hard to include him in all that he does and Nikola for beautiful paintings of characters from our story.

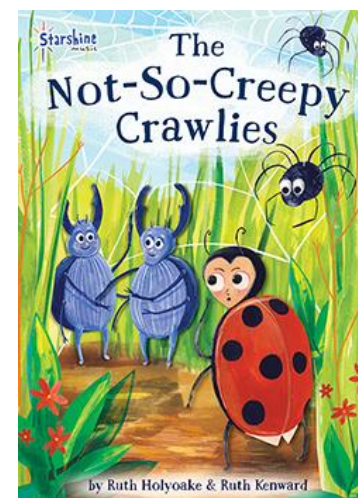
RS Laurie for always looking for a challenge in his learning.

1H Logan for a wonderful and imaginative written version of 'Through the Magic Mirror' and Andrey for phenomenal effort and improvement with his reading.

1S Eesa for excellent knowledge of history learnt this half term and Philip E for his great gymnastics display in PE.

2H Zain for being dedicated to completing his work during lessons and working very hard and Mikael for improving his handwriting and trying hard with the presentation of his work.

2S Michael for continued effort and enthusiasm in all subjects this week and Aaron for being mindful of other boys' emotions as well as his own.



Pastoral

Homefield Heroes

Years 3 and 4

Well done to all of Year 3 for their amazing assembly to parents about the Stone Age. Your hard work, delivery and enthusiasm for this historic topic was remarkable.

The following boys received a Homefield Hero certificate for stepping out of their comfort zone and putting 100% into their assembly performance: Hussain (3H), Kenzo (3S), and Ralph (3P).

In Year 4, well done to Elijah (4H) for his outstanding performance in the Rugby 'A' team. Aiden Y (4P) also stood out for a brilliant all round performance in a recent rugby fixture, scoring 5 tries! In 4S, Anish has impressed his science and English teachers with his excellent focus, contributions, and high standard of written work.

Visit to Roman Baths

On Tuesday 7th February, Year 7 went to the city of Bath. On our journey there we had lots of fun playing Top Trumps and 'who knows each other better'. Excited and eager to go, we reached our destination at around 10.00am and were ready to learn.

We started by walking around the Roman Baths whilst Mr McCaffery explained all the fine details and the rich history of Bath (formerly Aquae Sulis). Once we finished walking and talking, we had lunch and went to the educational workshop where we looked at pictures of the altars and gravestones, which we had seen in the museum and attempted to translate them. We also looked at various everyday items that would be included in the different rooms of the baths like the caldarium (hot room), frigidarium (cold room) and the tepidarium (warm room).

Some of the day's highlights included getting to see the Roman Baths and how they were used.

Years 5 and 6

Well done to the Year 5 and 6 Homefield Heroes for their excellent attitude and participation in lessons recently:

5H Thomas and Alex
5P Nitin and Darwin
5S Zachary
6H Sachin and Aaden
6P Dev, Stefano, and Kaiyan
6S Charlie and Rohan

Years 7 and 8

7MJM Adam for his continued consistency and effort and Rayhaan for his involvement and enthusiasm during the trip to Bath.

8CS Jonas for some excellent work in science, French and Maths and Mathew for his resilience and effort in Maths.

Seeing and interpreting the gravestones and altars was fun because they gave insight into the lives of Romans, either asking the gods for something or giving back as offerings. We also loved learning about how the Romans combined their own religion with that of the Celts to create one deity, which was called Sulis Minerva.

Rayhaan especially liked the trip for the memories he will have of it as a day out with his friends. It was fascinating to be able to see where Roman citizens used to spend their time nearly two thousand years ago.

*By Kaichi, Rayhaan, Siddharth, and Petro
Year 7*



Children's Mental Health Week

All students and staff have embraced *Children's Mental Health Week* and it has been wonderful to hear our boys speak so honestly and openly about this subject. This year, the topic is 'Let's Connect' and the teachers have worked hard to weave this theme into the excellent teaching and learning taking place across the week.

I would like to say a special thank you to our parent guest speaker, Deepa Sreenivasan, for delivering our whole-school assembly this morning. I always enjoy finding opportunities for our parents to present to the boys... what a perfect way to 'connect' together from all different parts of the Homefield community.

Congratulations to the following boys, who are all recipients of 'Wellbeing Ambassador' badges. They have been selected by their Form Tutors and Heads of Year for being excellent role models to their peers due to their high-quality discussion surrounding wellbeing and mental health, and for the way in which they recognise and promote its importance.

| | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Reception - Joshua | |
| Year 1 - Aarib | Year 5 - Aled |
| Year 2 - Jaiden | Year 6 - Finn |
| Year 3 - Oliver | Year 7 - Tobi |
| Year 4 - Aiden Y | Year 8 - Ryan |

I hope you have a wonderful half-term break.

Mrs Auty

Learning Resources Centre

Dates for the Diary

Book Week 27th February - 3rd March
There will be planned activities every day and we will celebrate the end of Book Week by inviting everyone to dress up as their favourite book character on **Friday 3rd March**.

Shelfie Competition Please submit a picture taken in an unusual place whilst reading a book.

Book Fair 27th February - 2nd March
Books will be able to be purchased after school in the hall, with **CARD ONLY PAYMENTS**. Every book purchased generates new books for the school library. More details after the half-term break.

Poet Visit 10th March
Performance poet Adisa will be demonstrating his skills with workshops for Years 3 - 8.

'Book Look' Work Shares

We would like to thank all our parents for joining us for the parent-pupil 'Book Look' last week. It was wonderful to see so many of our community sharing the learning journeys that our boys are on, celebrating not only what they had achieved, but also how they approached learning, demonstrated creativity, resilience and problem solving.

A few snippets from the boys:

'My Dad felt impressed when I showed him my work. I felt happy because he's my best friend.'

Bernardo Reception

'My Mum and Dad were impressed with me. I loved it. I felt happy.'

Arie Reception

'I felt happy when I showed my parents my work because they were proud of me.'

Kiran Year 2

'We do lots of things our parents don't know about... now they do!'

Finu Year 6

'My parents saw a different side to me that they don't normally see.'

Stefano Year 6

'The book look revealed all our secrets!'

Aden N Year 6

'I really loved my parents coming into school because they were proud of how much I had improved and how well I was doing in my subjects.'

Nsama Year 7

And some from the parents:

'It was amazing to see the pride on his face and how much he could tell me about his learning.' Year 1 parent

'We could see how much progress he had made since September, and I can't thank the staff enough for all that they've done.' Reception parent

'This event was great. I think it's very helpful for parents to understand their child's learning status at school. We hope this kind of activity can be held once every term!' Year 6 parent

'My husband and I found it to be such a beautiful experience. To sit side by side our son in his learning environment and have him explain his chosen pages to us, is not something other schools are doing. It showed us how Sam is progressing, areas to improve in, and the enormous effort put into his education by all his teachers. The morning allowed Sam to explain his work to us, his strengths, likes and dislikes: some quite amusing moments.' Year 1 parent

'Kavin was very excited to have his mum in his classroom and he thought I would be delighted to see his science book. Thanks to the school I enjoyed that 30 minutes and I think it was very nice to see his excited face. Even though I come to school every day it was super exciting to go to his classroom and sit with him even for a minute.' Year 7 parent

Gifted and Talented

Our fledgling newspaper team is now up and running, with the first drafts of our Spring term journalists' reports being sent through! We are all very excited for it to be published at the end of the term.

Many thanks to Mrs Mach, Mrs Colgate, Mrs Griffiths and Mr Leung who have all been uploading exciting challenges and projects to our Gifted and Talented Teams tile for you to enjoy! If you haven't had a chance yet to complete some of these, make sure you log on over half term and have a go at some of them. Keep a look out in the first week back for Miss Nanasi's Maths challenges.

Finally, if your son would like to participate in some challenging activities over the break, encourage them to try baking or cooking something new, visit some museums or performances or even just read something more ambitious at home!

Parents' Association

The Homefield Association have a number of events organised over the coming months. Please see the information poster attached to this newsletter. The Association can be contacted via Classlist.com and more information is available at: <https://web.classlist.com/homefieldprep-ha>



Sport

U8 Rugby

On Tuesday 7th February, the U8 Blue and Yellow teams took on close rivals Chinthurst in two very close tag rugby matches. The Blue team went toe-to-toe throughout the whole match and the game could not have been more even. Tries from Jai, Hussain, Kenzo, Anirudh and Yuvi bought the score to 7-7 at half time. In the second half, Jai secured two more. Yahya, James, and Arjun defended really well and Chinthurst just edged ahead in the final minutes bringing the result to 11-12. It really was a fantastic game that either team could have won. The Yellow team were victorious and controlled most of the game. Three tries from Finlay and three tries from Ted put Homefield in a commanding lead. Keshav appeared on the score sheet twice and Yug completed a hattrick of tries to give the home team an impressive 11-9 win. Well done to all the boys who played.

Year 4 Rugby Fixtures

On Thursday 26th January, eighteen Year 4 pupils enjoyed a rugby fixture against Kingswood House. It was an entertaining game, with Elijah and Kaylen making some superb tackles. Homefield's tries were scored by Elijah (2) and Aran. When Homefield were pushing for a late leveller, Kingswood House forced a turnover and quickly scored their fifth try to make it 5-3 at the final whistle.

The following week, all of Homefield's Year 4 pupils travelled to Cumnor House School to play a triangular fixture which also involved Dulwich Prep. It was a great afternoon of rugby. Homefield scored 26 tries in total as they applied the skills they have been learning in lessons this term. The 'A' team drew 3-3 with Dulwich Prep and lost 5-4 to Cumnor House. The 'B' team lost both matches 7-3, the 'C' team lost 7-2 and 6-2, and the 'D' team won 7-5 and lost 7-2.

Tries were scored by Dyllon, Rowan, Vincent, Elijah (4), Yusuf (3), Michael, Max VB, Kaloyan, Ethan C, James, Ethan H, Ashton, Aiden Y (5), Anish, Daniyal Q (2) and Zane S. Top tacklers on the day were Arnay, Elijah and Kaloyan.

For their standout performances, Aiden Y (five tries) and Elijah (four tries and top tackler) both earned a Headmaster's Crest. Well done Year 4, for a super rugby season!

U10 Rugby

Last week was a busy week for the U10 rugby teams. On Tuesday 31st January they travelled away to RGS Guildford and despite the results not being in their favour, it was fantastic to see how they had all improved their rugby skills. Most notable players for the 'A' team were Darwin and Aaliyan. The 'B' team had a very hard game, but Hanchen and Adam were the star performers. The 'C' team played their very first game and congratulations go to Sarvesh, Thomas S and Alex W for great perseverance and performances on the pitch.

On Friday 3rd February, Homefield hosted Chinthurst and the 'C' team were victorious. Four tries by Ian, one for Zachary, Sarvesh, Yusuf and three for Thomas S led to 10-7 win.

The 'B' team played very well but lost narrowly with Alasdair and Aled both running over good tries and there was some super tackling from Aled and Eric.

The 'A' team lost but showed great improvement in the second half with a great try from Adam, a try by Oba after impressive strong running and a well worked passing move led to Constantine getting on the score sheet. Well done to all the boys who played.

U11 Rugby

On Wednesday 1st February, Homefield took on Chinthurst in a thrilling end-to-end battle which saw Homefield take a 6-5 win.

Homefield came up against their toughest challenge with local rivals Chinthurst. Alexander opened the scoring with a brilliant run from inside Homefield's half to put us ahead halfway through the first half. Chinthurst scored two quick tries minutes before the first half ended, and Samuel levelled the score to make it 2-2 at the break.

The second half started briskly with Chinthurst scoring to make it 3-2 and two match-winning kicks from Olivier from inside his own half set up Alexander and William to put Homefield ahead 4-3.

Homefield managed to control the game with brilliant rucking from Jaysen, Keller, Damon, and Harry. Scrum half Charlie showed great awareness with some brilliant off-loading to get Homefield within victory, and an off-load to Samuel was far too quick for Chinthurst, resulting in a magnificent 6-5 win for Homefield.



A valiant (and very muddy) U11 Team

Our U11 'C' team played out a thrilling 6-6 draw with Chinthurst. After initially leading by two tries to one, Homefield then went into half time 6-2 down. A fantastic second half comeback earned them a well-deserved draw. Homefield tries were scored by Krish, Sachin and Jayden (4). Ethan, Aaden, and Jayden were standout tacklers, while Raghav and Sachin made some excellent forward runs with the ball in hand. A superb game of rugby which saw Homefield retain possession by recycling the ball very effectively.

U13 Rugby

On Monday 30th January, the U13 boys all played rugby away at Cumnor House.

The 'A' team opened the scoring with a quick pass from Henry to Ayaan who showed great pace to get over the line. Cumnor struck back with three quick tries and began to build pressure.

However, Henry and Andrew both scored after a super tackle from Boris and a smart pass from Elliot.

Sport / continued...

The game was incredibly even as each team scored in possession, but the rucking of Ethan and Humzah allowed Homefield to regain the lead. Ayaan scored two further tries and Alexander showed excellent support play to also run over two tries. Cumnor came back and despite a late try from Ethan, the game ended 10-10. A very exciting draw.

The 'B' team also played out a close game just losing out 9-11. Oscar was superb with the ball in hand and scored five tries.

Petro, in his first competitive rugby match, recorded three and Rayhaan achieved a great try after excellent lead-up work from Kavin and Aaron.

The 'C' team lost narrowly 7-10 with many of the boys playing in their first ever rugby match. Kaichi scored two, Henry P and Jonas both scored and captain Adam notched up a great try after a superb pass from Hanlin. Siddarth and Nsama scored with long runs over the try line and the team defended to the very end.

U13 Rugby Fixture

Our U13 B Team enjoyed a rugby match against Kingswood House in glorious sunshine on Monday 6th February. It was a tough competition for Homefield against strong opposition, with the final score being 10-3 to Kingswood House.

It was pleasing to see strong running and good support play by Nsama, Adam (1 try), Kaichi (1 try) and Sidd (1 try) in particular. Our U13s can now look forward to two hockey fixtures against Kingswood House after half term.

Music

It's been a busy Spring half-term in music. Students have been preparing for their Recorder, Piano, and Band assessments in the Upper School, with boys becoming confident with xylophones and singing with confidence in the Lower School. Many boys passed their exams with fantastic results in all practical as well as theory exams.

Music Scholarships

We are incredibly proud of the following students going on to senior school with music scholarships:

Ansh - Eton Music Scholar
Hanlin - Eton Music Exhibition
Jonas - Box Hill
Lewis - Trinity School
Jonathan - Trinity School

Assemblies

Students have been delighting audiences in assemblies as well as Open Mornings with their piano, violin and singing performances. A special thanks to Hanlin, Ansh, Andrew in Year 8, Kavin and Aaron in Year 7, Oscar, Eric B, Zachary, Aarav in Year 5 and Eric L in Year 4. I look forward to more boys performing in the coming terms.

Clubs and Concerts

Our co-curricular clubs are up and running, please also keep an eye out for the Homefield Ensemble concerts in the Summer. There is still time to join, please see Mrs Griffith if you are interested. Please take a look at the music clubs provision at: <https://www.homefield.sutton.sch.uk/school-life/extra-curricular-clubs>.

Music Congratulations

Congratulations to Ansh in Year 8 who has received his ARSM diploma certificate in piano. He achieved a very high distinction (49/50) to become the second boy in Homefield history (after his brother in 2020) who also received a similar accolade.



Peri Prom Series

Please make a note in your calendars of our second annual Peri Prom series coming up in May. For all new parents, this will be a recital of your son's private music lessons. Last year's events were incredibly well attended. I would like to open the invitation to any parent who would like to view all the fantastic work that our incredibly talented students (and their fantastic teachers) have been doing over this academic year. Performances take place from 4.15 – 5.15pm in the Performance Hall.

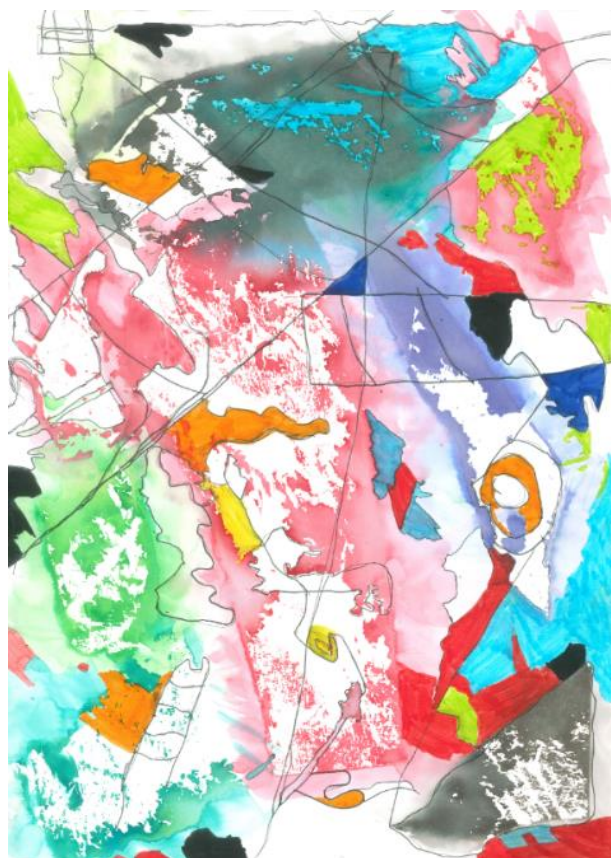
| Date | Prom |
|----------------------|--|
| 16 th May | Brass: Mr Marshall |
| 17 th May | Piano: Mr Woolmer |
| 18 th May | Violin: Mrs Martindale |
| 19 th May | Cello & Piano: Mr Aslangul & Mrs Woolmer |
| 23 rd May | Woodwind: Ms Andrews |
| 24 th May | Percussion: Mrs Allardyce |
| 25 th May | Guitar: Mr Legg |

Piano request

If anyone knows of an upright acoustic piano that is available second hand, please can you contact Mrs Griffith at ygriffith@homefieldprep.school with details.

Homefield Art Gallery

Raymin, Year 3, Music, Motion and Art



Tweet of the Week



Homefield Prep School @HomefieldSchool · 3m

#Year5 & #Year6 Science Quiz Club semi-finals took place this morning with 5 Homefield Prep teams competing online. Out of a total of 55 teams we are proud to announce that Homefield '2' came 10th, Homefield '1' came 18th and Homefield '4' came 19th! Amazing performances!



Keep abreast with Homefield news as it happens



Half Term Holiday Club

Our wrap around care providers will be running a half term holiday club during the week commencing 13th February. This will be held at Highview Primary School, The Chase, Wallington SM6 8JT. Please refer to the attached information flyer.