

Headlines

Autumn Term

11th September 2020



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

ISI inspection report

Our wonderful school extension nearing completion

Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents

We've enjoyed a great start to term and thanks for your support and care; in particular, for your patience with staggered start and end times. This has allowed us to continue with our thermal screening procedures and also keep on mission with keeping year groups in 'bubbles'.

This is a royal pain, make no mistake. The level of logistical management each day for us is heightened, from timetables to playtimes. However, the alternative of relaxing too early might be that schools are ordered to close should they have a spike of corona cases to manage. So please keep to your timings, observe distancing and if you do want to idle and chat with friends please take it off site, to avoid crowding. Whatever lies ahead I feel this School community has the resilience, common-sense and drive to deal with it pragmatically and with care.

The boys have been brilliant; their behaviour has been exemplary and they have flowed quickly back into purposeful routine.

The after school clubs list has gone out and you will notice that this provision is organised into year groups. This is somewhat limiting but keeps us safe.

Our caterers, CH&Co, have the staff and systems in place to safely return to the full hot meals service from the 21st September.

This will require my staff to assiduously manage the boys' time and space in the Dining Hall. Please look out for a ParentMail providing full details of this and reply accordingly by Thursday 17th September, at the latest.

Let's keep talking, if you need to. Staff can chat on the phone, but sometimes face-to-face is better. If parents do need to come on site, please just book in and we will mask you up in communal areas.

You will notice we've switched to TEAMS for homework. We have come on so far with this platform that it seems astute to keep it going and with purpose. If you get stuck please just talk to the Form Tutors and we will help. Mrs Mach has also given some advice in her article which appears on page 3.

Pre-corona we would have been taking on the new classroom wing for the start of term. However, as building sites were ordered to close for some weeks we have seen some drift on handover.

Currently, we are on track to receive the new building just before ½ term. We have added some artist impressions on to our website of a few of the new areas. You may like to take a look to see the facilities the boys will enjoy in the very near future. In order to 'move in' I'm planning to

deploy our whole staff team to facilitate this quickly. Therefore, I'm adding another INSET day to the calendar before we spend the ½ term getting everything ready for your sons. **So please note the school will be closed to boys on Friday 16th October whilst staff prepare the new wing for the boys.**

Enjoy your weekend.

John Towers
Headmaster

Congratulations to Barnaby, our newly elected Head Boy for the Autumn Term.



Pre Prep Department

Welcome back to everyone after a somewhat different summer holiday. It has been so lovely seeing all the existing boys again and getting to know our new boys and their families. Thank you to you all for your understanding with the drop-off point and times. Please could we be vigilant with the timings as there are many boys coming in to school before Pre-Prep, and we are anxious to avoid congestion. If you would like to use our Stop and Drop service, please arrive at 8.40 and drive into the school where your son will be greeted by one of our Estates staff, and brought straight to a member of our Pre-Prep staff.

I am so pleased to see how well all of our new boys have settled in and are learning all the new information.

As the weeks go by we will be doing lots of exciting things and filling our classrooms with the boys' work as well as getting stuck in to learning, which the boys are looking forward to. Lastly, please could we remind parents to provide us with a photo for your son's coat peg as it makes it a lot easier for the boys to find their belongings.



Pre-Prep Students of the Week

Well done to our first two **Students of the Week** boys for their hard work!

Mikael in Tigers for always making good choices and following the rules.

Yohaán in Monkeys for already being such a helpful boy in the class!

Junior Department

It was lovely to see all the boys back after the holiday and also to welcome lots of new boys to the department: Ethan C, Ethan M, Zain and Antoine have joined Year 2 and Gianluca, Yusuf and Kenon joined Year 1. They have all settled in extremely well and have been well looked after by their classmates. We are also delighted to have Miss Alcobia teaching in Year 2.

Year 1 boys very quickly have become used to the new routines and have impressed us with their hard work and beautiful manners. They have been busy in Art, drawing self-portraits. In Science, they have been learning about the parts of the body.

The boys have also been discussing the languages they speak at home for a classroom display. Well done boys for a great start and keep it up!

Year 2 has started with a bang as the boys enthusiastically delve into the depths of Space, early explorers and the layers of The Amazon Rainforest.

They have settled into their new classrooms, made friends and are beginning to familiarise themselves with daily routines. The boys have adapted fantastically to the new school structures and we are delighted to have them back.

Junior Homefield Heroes

1S Yusuf for having a fantastic first week at Homefield. Well done, Yusuf!
1H Gianluca and Kenon for settling in really well to Homefield. Well done, boys!

2H Ethan C, Zain and Ethan M for settling into their new class and school well.

2S Antoine for settling wonderfully into Homefield.

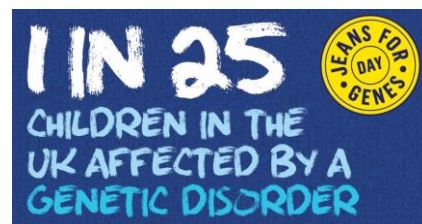
Charity Events

Jeans for Genes Day:

On Friday 18th September all Homefield boys and staff will be able to take part in this important charity event which aids in the research and support of those with genetic disorders.

As part of their uniform for the day, the boys can replace their school trousers with a pair of jeans.

We will arrange a collection box upon the boys' entry to school for their £1 contributions towards the charity.



Fantasy Football

With Premier League fixtures starting tomorrow, there are **less than 24 hours** left to sign up to be a part of the Homefield Fantasy Football Leagues for the upcoming season! Information on how to sign up, and the codes required, can be found in the document attached with today's Headlines. Huge congratulations to last season's winner, Chris, one of our parents, and to Nathan in Year 4, who came second overall, therefore being the highest scoring pupil.

Sign up by 11.00am tomorrow (Saturday 12th) to take part. We look forward to some friendly competition throughout the course of the season!



Music

There are still a few places left for individual instrumental lessons (except violin) please let Mr Meyers know by Friday 17th September, if you would like your son to start an instrument.

Email: ameyers@homefieldprep.school

Lunchtime instrumental groups such as Orchestra and Wind Band cannot continue as planned this term but boys playing orchestral or band instruments will join a year group ensemble.

It will be quite a challenge, but Mr Meyers will endeavour to write parts for the ensembles that are suitable for all of the players' standards.

**Monday – Year 5, Tuesday – Year 8,
Wednesday – Year 4, Thursday – Year 7
and Friday – Year 6**

The short 15-minute rehearsals will start from Monday 21st September.



Welcome to New Staff

We are delighted to welcome three new members of staff to the Homefield family this term:

Mrs Alcobia (2S):



Miss Randall (3S):



Mr Edwards (Sports Department):



Learning Technologies

TEAMS



The passwords for all boys in the school have now been reset and accounts issued to our new boys. Your son will be coming home with his office 365 letter (Teams) with his username and password written on it. Please work with your son over the next week or so, to help him access this resource.

We would like to inform you that we have a dedicated Teams email address should you require some support using Teams:

teams@homefieldprep.school

We will aim to get back to you as soon as we can. 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 handbook or on our website for further details.

Please note that Firefly will no longer be in use.

SIMS Data Collection System

Every year, we need to ensure that the details regarding your child and their contact details are kept up to date. We have previously used paper copies but from this term will be moving to an electronic system.

We would like to introduce parents/carers to the SIMS Parent App "**Parent App Lite**". This app helps schools to collect, manage and handle information and comply with GDPR data requirements, by obtaining accurate data securely from parents. The SIMS Parent App that will show you your boy's details, such as contact numbers, emails, address, etc., which you can then change, if needed, and the information will then be imported back into the school records automatically.

Please check your email inbox for the invitation to register for this app and amend, where necessary, the details that we currently hold for your child.

If any of these should change during the school year, you can simply adjust them via the app.

Pastoral

I hope the summer has found both you and your families well.

The school has been empty and quiet for too long. It has missed the energy and vibrancy that only the boys at Homefield can adequately supply even with 'bubbles'. Lessons are in full swing and it is clear to see that the pupils are enjoying building new friendships whilst strengthening existing ones.

Leading the pupils this term will be our new Head Boy: Barnaby. Well done and thoroughly deserved. Next week, we shall pick the first wave of prefects to support Barnaby in his new role.

As a parent you also play an important role in their wider-development and your encouragement and involvement from home greatly supports our efforts in school. Please do keep the lines of communication open and by working together, I look forward to an enjoyable, successful and safe start to the new academic year for all boys.

*All good wishes,
Mr Zak Siva, Deputy Head Pastoral*

Senior Department Homefield Heroes

3H: Spandan, Aarush and Joshua
3S: Aaliyan, Rudy, Zareef, Hanchen
4H: Ethan, Calum and Noah
4P: Samuel A, Charlie B and William G
4S: Rohan K, Rohan P, Lewis and Atharva

For being such great buddies and being helpful to our new boys.

All Year 5 and 6 Form Captains, Vice-Form Captains and School Council Representatives, for showing initiative and leadership skills.

8KWL: Peter and Henry
8MM: Harry and Barnaby
7LC: Ziyad, Oliver and Faizaan
7MMC: Jacob, Robert, Hansol and Rory
For making a great, positive start to the
Autumn Term.

Pupil Roles and Responsibilities

Congratulations to the following boys who will be taking on the following roles this term after being voted in by their peers.

Years 3 and 4

3H Form Captain: Kamran
3H Form Vice-Captain: Darwin
3H School Council Rep: Ranvir

3S Form Captain: Aaliyan
3S Form Vice-Captain: Hanchen
3S School Council Rep: Rudy

4H Form Captain: Isaiah
4H Form Vice-Captain: Vihaan
4H School Council Rep: Ewan

4P Form Captain: Felix
4P Form Vice-Captain: Lachlan
4P School Council Rep: Arjun

4S Form Captain: Lewis
4P Form Vice-Captain: Rohan
4P School Council Rep: Atharva

Years 5 and 6

5H Form Captain: Aaron
5H Form Vice-Captain: Ismail
5H School Council Rep: Sebastian

5P Form Captain: Jake
5P Form Vice-Captain: Rayhaan
5P School Council Rep: Adrian

5S Form Captain: Vir
5S Form Vice-Captain: Raece
5S School Council Rep: Jeyavel

6H Form Captain: Tim
6H Form Vice-Captain: Andrew
6H School Council Rep.: Tristan

6S Form Captain: Philip
6S Form Vice-Captain: Reece
6S School Council Rep: Luke

Years 7 and 8

7LC Form Captain: Siddhant
7LC Form Vice-Captain: Aqil
7LC School Council Rep: Arjen

7MMC Form Captain: Cass
7MMC Form Vice-Captain: Robert
7MMC School Council Rep: Hansol

8KWL Form Captain: Ollie T
8KWL Form Vice-Captain: Lorcan
8KWL School Council Rep: Henry

8MM Form Captain: Jijith
8MM Form Vice-Captain: Barnaby
8MM School Council Rep: George

Well done to the following boys who will represent their House as Captain or Vice-Captain for the whole academic year.

House Captains (Year 8)

Bomfords:	Peter
Ellis:	Felix
Grays:	Archie
Walfords:	Harry H

House Vice-Captains (Year 7)

Bomfords:	Harry F
Ellis:	Robert
Grays:	Aqil
Walfords:	Ronak

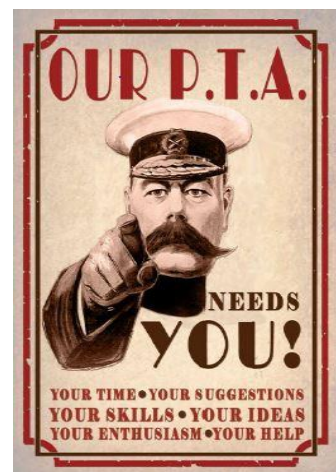
Parents' Association

The Homefield Association AGM will take place **on Zoom on Friday 25th September at 9.45am**. For more information and the Zoom meeting details please look on the Events page of Classlist (our parent portal).

If you are new to the school and have not signed up to Classlist yet, please register at www.classlist.com/or download the free Classlist app.

We are currently looking for more parents to volunteer as a Class Rep or on the HA team. If you are able to get involved, please contact Lizby Sharpe on Classlist or email:

homefieldassociation@hotmail.co.uk



Learning Resources Centre

The LRC is now open for boys to borrow books during their LRC lessons. However, we are not yet able to open during breaks and lunch.

All books are to stay in school and not go home. Hopefully, it will not be too long before we can fully reopen. An amazing 332 books have been borrowed by the boys to keep in school in the past week!



Tweet of the Week



Homefield Prep School @HomefieldSchool · 19h
#Reception boys were busy yesterday practicing their counting, ordering and writing of numbers to 10 and higher! #MathsIsFun



Keep abreast with Homefield

news as it happens...   

<https://twitter.com/HomefieldSchool>

<https://www.facebook.com/homefield.school/>

https://www.instagram.com/homefield_preparatory_school/