

Headlines

Autumn Term
15th September 2023

"The quality of the pupils' academic and other achievements is excellent."

ISI inspection report December 2021



Year 6 Teambuilding Event

Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents

As the first, full week draws to a close it has been a joy to experience the school being 'alive' again; with the corridors, classrooms and playing fields filled with the choral sounds of youthful innocence, enthusiasm, and wonderment. Over the course of this week there has been the inevitable: bags under the eyes, yawns, mid-afternoon slumps, but the staff have done incredibly well too (!)

This week has also afforded lots of new learning opportunities via trips. Year 3 and 4 visited Butser Ancient Farm as part of their History curriculum and to experience what life might have been like in Celt and Saxon times. Year 6 visited Caterham School for a team-building session in their outdoor learning and pursuits centre. Yesterday, Year 8s visited Juniper Hall for a Geography fieldwork day, including key data collection from the River Tillingbourne.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Homefield staff for playing their respective, and important, roles in successfully onboarding your children into a new school year.

I strongly do believe that a 'village' raises a child and they should always be at the heart of all that we do. In our first Whole School Assembly of the year we discussed the Homefield Values. These can be found on Page 3 of the pupils' diaries (Years 3 to 8)

- We listen carefully and follow instructions.
- We work without disturbing others.
- We treat others as we would like to be treated.
- We do our best at all times.
- We work and play safely.

All Homefield pupils should be very proud of their efforts with regards to displaying these values, and consistently so. Well done, and long may it continue!

Stop and drop, and pedestrian access will revert to its original time of 8.10am from Monday 18th of September.

Until then, I do hope the weekend finds both you and your families well-rested, and dry (!)

All good wishes,



Mr Siva and Fudge

Lower School: Reception, Years 1 and 2

In Reception, the boys have impressed all the staff by settling in quickly and calmly to our new routine. The boys have experienced many firsts this week including visiting the library, taking part in PE and going to the music room for our music lessons. At lunch, boys have been learning how to line up, choose their option and use a knife, fork and spoon.

In the classroom, the boys have started phonics by learning the sounds; s, a, t and p, focusing on hearing these sounds in words and forming the letters correctly and they have been working hard on writing their names which is such an important skill to help independence. In maths, we've been comparing sizes and heights of objects and using mathematical vocabulary to explain such as bigger, smaller, tallest, shortest etc.



In Year 1 boys have been getting to know our new teachers, Mrs. Godly and Miss Rowe and our new Teaching Assistant Mrs. Harris. There have been a whole new set of routines to learn including how to change in and out of a shirt and tie for PE.

In English, the boys impressed their teachers by writing a detailed account of their summer holidays. It was great to see so many boys working independently on this task. In maths, we have started our topic of place value for two-digit numbers using dienes to support us.

In history, boys are now engrossed in our new topic of travel and transport and are currently comparing past and present systems. In science, boys have been using pictures of themselves as babies to compare and contrast how our bodies change over time. The staff had so much fun sharing their baby photos with the class!



In Year 2 we have settled straight back into routine with our new teachers, Mrs. Johnson, Miss Lane and our new Teaching Assistant, Mrs. Votier. We've been lucky enough to have a few new boys join our year group and we've worked hard on helping them settle in and make friends.

In English, we have started our new text 'The Day the Crayons Quit' by Oliver Jeffers with a focus on persuasive writing. In maths, the boys have started our place value topic and we've been working hard to partition numbers using the 'part whole' method. In history, we have started our topic of 'The Great Fire of London', which has already sparked interest in our boys.

In STEAM, we learned about The Monument designed by Sir Christopher Wren and Dr Robert Hooke, we learned about its significance to 'The Great Fire of London'. We then spent some time recreating the tower using Lego. Alan in 2H already knows an impressive number of facts about the Great Fire, including when and where it started and the importance of Samuel Pepy's diary. Here is a photo of his completed Monument made from Lego.



Homefield Heroes

RH- Naksh for his hard work in all his areas of learning as well as being very kind to his friends.

RS- Ethan for settling in well to his new class and fully embracing values and life at Homefield.

1H - Bertie for being an excellent role model for the Homefield Values.

1S - Ali for always listening and following instructions.

2H- Kylesh for working and playing safely at all times and following instructions carefully.

2S - Evan for trying his best at all times and putting lots of effort into his work.

Medication

As we start the new academic year, please remember to supply the medication for your son so we can support your child throughout the school day.

All medication requires a prescription label and must be in the original container, marked with your son's name and the dosage. Healthcare plans (where required) and Consent for Administration forms should be completed and brought in with the medication.

Flu vaccinations: Community nurses will be visiting the school on **the 21st September** to administer nasal flu vaccines throughout the school. For your child to receive this inoculation, please complete and return the online consent form which was distributed at the end of the Summer term and again today.

The deadline for receipt of consents is midnight on Sunday 17th September, otherwise your son will not be able to be immunised.



Pastoral News and Activities

Years 3 and 4

This past week, I have loved catching up with students about their summer holidays and seeing the joy on their faces coming back to school each morning.

Year 3 have done a superb job getting settled into new routines and have been incredibly responsible moving around the school, getting to lessons on time and using their new lockers.

The new adventure playground has been a huge success for both year groups and boys are eager to explore the myriad of play possibilities.

A very warm welcome to our new boys who are settling in brilliantly. In Year 3 we have Advik, Vincent, Ethan, Yahia, John, Zayn and Dhruv. In Year 4 we have Abhir, Jaka and Mathew.

The trip to Butser Ancient Farm was a perfect start to the year, not only to engage the pupils in their new History topics, but to develop some new and old friendships.



The Year 3 boys enjoyed an archaeological excavation, 'clunching' (a method to build walls), chalk carving, and cordage.

The Year 4s learned how to spin sheep wool with a spindle, made jewellery, built a wattle fence and also took part in an archaeological excavation. All members of staff were very impressed with how the boys represented the school and followed the school values.



This week, two boys from each class have been awarded a Homefield Hero certificate:

For being excellent Homefield representatives, with impeccable behaviour on the trip - Kiran (3H), Zain (3S), James (4S) and Alex (4H)

For their enthusiasm and engagement on the trip - Elijah (3H), Aiden (3S), Ryan (4S) and Abhir (4H)

Years 5 and 6

Congratulations to the following boys demonstrating aspects of our Homefield Values:

5H Xingda showed 'We do our best at all times' in history sharing his scientific knowledge of bogs and how they preserve artefacts so well.

5H Yusuf gave a fantastic persuasive speech with rhetorical skill for his role of Vice Captain demonstrating 'We do our best at all times'

5S Evan 'listened carefully and followed instructions' by being on time to lessons and getting ready promptly at end of day.

5P Daniel has 'treated others how he would like to be treated' showing a positive outlook and helping others whilst managing an injury.

The whole of Year 6 demonstrated 'work and play safely' on their outdoor learning trip where they learned essential survival skills, how to make fires and tackle obstacle courses.

Year 6 Team Building Excursion

On Wednesday, our Year 6 boys enjoyed an exhilarating and exciting excursion to Caterham School's Outdoor Learning Centre.



They tried their hand at survival skills, building and lighting fires in the forest and foraging for the best 'snappy sticks'. Some managed to get the flames going, working effectively in teams. They also demonstrated their kindness and support for each other, intrepidly clambering, scaling and dangling across the assault courses. It was wonderful to hear their encouraging comments ringing through the woods.



No doubt they will take forward their new friendships and personal achievements into the remainder of the year. Well done Year 6!



Years 7 and 8

After a great start to the new academic year, the following boys have been awarded Homefield Heroes this week:

Year 7 - Harry Clark for his excellent manners and engaging in conversations with our new Year 7 boys and his form tutor

Year 8 - Petro and Denis for their engagement and positive representation of the school during the Tillingbourne trip.



Performing Arts

The performing arts peripatetic team is growing with the wonderful Mr Nick Parker-Tut joining us teaching acting classes on a Monday. Lessons have proved popular and there are, at time of publishing, only 3 spaces left. Please email Mrs Griffith at ygriffith@homefieldprep.school if you would like to sign your son up.

Mrs Allardyce's percussion groups have similarly proved popular so far this term with only waiting list places available for the Year 5 and 6 percussion groups. The Year 3 and 4 and the Year 7 and 8 percussion groups have only a few spaces left. If your son is in the Upper School, doing piano lessons and he would like to make music with others, do have a look at the percussion letters that went out to parents on Monday.

Any students in Years 3-8 who plays the guitar and would like to join the guitar group, please let Mrs Griffith know asap.

All other instrumental teachers have some spaces left, do get in contact so that your son can get a full term's worth of instrumental lessons this Autumn term.



Globe Theatre Performance

Luke in Year 7 is currently performing in 'Macbeth' at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre.

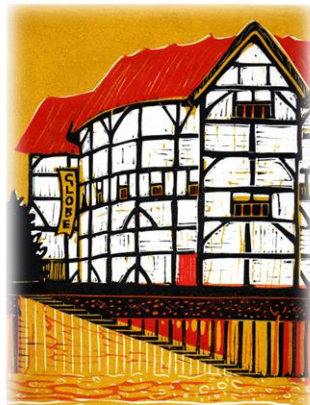


He is having an incredible experience working in such an iconic and historic building. Audience members can really feel what it would have like to watch a play there many years ago.

Macbeth runs until the 28th October 2023.

Please click on the link below for a trailer for the production:

<https://youtu.be/g1d8HLzsqHM?si=--HO5UhEZOTdtAPr>



Sport

A fantastic sunny Thursday afternoon saw every Year 4 boy compete against Aberdour School with some outstanding individual and team results.

A debut goal for new boy Jaka N and an unquestionable 'Man of the Match' for another new boy Mathew H-S. The goals came flooding in with Jai V, Finnlay S, Gianluca T and Arjun P all seeing the back of the net.

Ted D, Isaac P and Yug N each clocked up two goals for their teams producing some fantastic final results.

Victories came from the 'A', 'B' and 'C' teams with final scores of 3-1, 2-1 and 5-1 respectively and a very narrow defeat for the 'D' team 1-2.

Excellent effort all round by all the boys and, of course, the parents who came to support.



Dates for your diary:

Senior School Transfer Seminar via TEAMS

21st September 6.30 – 7.15pm

Link : <https://shorturl.at/hjvT5>

Senior Schools Information Fair

5th October 6.30 – 8.00pm Refreshments from 6.15pm

Parent Information Evenings via TEAMS

Mon 25th September Reception 5:30 - 5:50pm (Mrs Field)

Mon 25th September Years 1 and 2 6:00 - 6:20pm (Mrs Field)

Tues 26th September Years 7 and 8 (Leung) 5:30 - 5:50 (Mr K-W)

Weds 27th September Years 3 and 4 5:30 - 5:50 (Miss Alcobia)

Weds 27th September Years 5 and 6 6:00 - 6:20 (Mrs Colgate)

Sharing Good News

Has your son done anything exciting or interesting outside school? Any achievements that you would like to share with the school community?

Please contact us with a short explanation and a photo via email to

administration@homefieldprep.school.

We would love to share your son's good news on social media and in Headlines!

Keep abreast with Homefield news as it happens

