

Headlines

Summer Term

18th June 2021

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

ISI inspection report



Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents

Our competitive cricket fixtures are going well this season, with plenty of winning form. As Year 6 came back from a fixture this week, I was delighted that they had won (yet again). I was equally happy to learn from a member of the public, a lady pushing a baby in a pram, that all the boys had immediately stepped aside on the pavement and had been immaculately well mannered.

That type of consideration is what we really need from our young people. We are fortunate to live in a liberal democracy. However, I'm sure you will have noticed that society appears increasingly polarised with shrill voices (and not enough listening or tolerance) on issues such as race, gender, class and religion. We must take care that these 'culture wars' leveraged by press and social media do not impact negatively on schools.

Our boys need a safe place to learn, to understand diversity and diverse viewpoints and to develop their own critical thinking skills. Some of these themes, entirely age appropriate of course, will feature in our 'Personal, Health and Social Education' lessons next week.

With your partnership and as a truly independent school, we will continue to navigate these waters with our experience, care, consideration and, above all, common sense.

On academics, we have 16 boys through to the Regional Final of the London Engineer Leaders Award with entries on "If you were and engineer what would you do..?"; helping focus thinking and ingenuity all the way from Reception to Year 8.

More exciting news to celebrate: two of our Year 8 boys made it into the Top 10 of the prestigious national final of the Townsend Warner History Essay Prize. Well done to Qasim who came 3rd and to Sam B who came 6th. It is worth noting that Homefield had five finalist winners and we were the **only** school in the country to field two candidates in the first half dozen. Qasim's essay on Nelson, and Sam B's essay on the history of the tank, were both given honorable mentions in this year's report. The cultural capital and transferable skills the boys have demonstrated with their commitment here sets them up so well for life.

A special mention also, passed from the Headmaster at Reed's Senior School, for two of our Year 8 boys, being the top performers in this year's 13+ entry cohort and winning the Subject Prizes: Sam S who came First in French, Latin, Maths and Physics; Barnaby first in Biology, Chemistry and History. True 'renaissance' young men!

On extra effort, we managed many miles during half term with our epic collective charity walk from Homefield to Olympus.

Top striders in the Juniors included Peter @ 14 miles and in the Seniors, Owais @ 27 miles. 4P totalled 110 miles. A solid family contribution from Stefano and Gianluca @ 50 miles. Well done all. Keep on walking!

Enjoy the weekend

John Towers
Headmaster

Pre-Prep

What better weather to have than glorious sunshine with our current topic having a summer focus. This has given us an opportunity to talk to the boys about 'Sun Safety' and we have really noticed their understanding and independence with this, from knowing to put on a sun hat, to staying hydrated and finding time to relax in the shade. We have very much enjoyed our time outside, making observations in the environment and using our sense to explore the season.

Besides sun safety, Pre Prep have created some wonderful displays all about summer, showing their beautiful writing and creative artwork making glorious flowers. There is so much more to come with shadow work, making more comparisons to other seasons and watching the changes in temperature, which will really further develop their enquiry skills and curiosity about the world around them.

The boys have also worked so hard in our new guided maths and reading groups.

This has been a wonderful opportunity to develop our speaking and listening skills and share ideas with others that we may not usually work with.

Each group has a different focus and although new, everyone has approached this with such enthusiasm – we have all been really proud.



Our Homefield Heroes are:

Yohaán in Monkeys for working very hard and challenging himself in Maths.
Harin in Monkeys for working hard and challenging himself in writing.
Louis in Tigers for using his phonics knowledge to spell during writing activities.
Shriyan in Tigers for being considerate to others and showing great teamwork, helping his peers and staff.



Junior Department

The Junior Department boys have been working hard and are always very excited to have fun playtimes on the field!

In Year 1, we have been making full use of the outdoor area during this lovely spell of hot weather. In Maths, we have been measuring and doing lots of practical work with a partner both inside and outside. We had an Art lesson where the boys sketched pictures of the school and we were really pleased with the results. The boys paid close attention to details and some boys even managed to do some shading. Well done, Year 1!

Our marigolds are now ready to be planted in gardens so we hope that the boys enjoy watching them flower at home. We are very much looking forward to our outing on Monday 28th June to Whitehall, Cheam, to learn more about Tudor homes.

Year 2 have enjoyed learning about the history of seaside holidays and the changes that have occurred over time. They were intrigued to learn all about fossils and became palaeontologists for a day, looking at some super examples of fossils that Ethan (2S) had discovered at the beach!

Excitingly, we have started putting together our chosen habitats this week.

Thank you to all the parents for providing such wonderful STEAM resources for the boys' projects.

Through your generous donations each week, the boys in the Junior Department have recently raised enough money to support another Guide Dog puppy: Jessie.

Year 2

Here is Homefield Hero Sulaiman's poem (in the style of A.A. Milne)

When I was One,
I was no fun.

When I was Two,
I could nearly chew.

When I was Three,
I wanted to be free.

When I was Four,
I could open a door.

When I was Five,
I felt I could drive.

Now I am Six,
I love picnics.

Sulaiman in 2S

Homefield Heroes

1H Oliver for trying really hard in everything, **Jeff** for thoughtful contributions in class discussions, **Ayaan** for lovely presentation of all his work and **Arjun** for great enthusiasm to everything in school.
1S Charlie for great contributions to class discussions and for super work in Maths, **Alex** for his fantastic reading, **Euan** for being a very helpful and considerate member of 1S and **Ryan** for lovely presentation of all his work.
2H Peter for working outstandingly hard in all subjects and **Ashton** for making superb comparisons between seashores now, and the past, in History.
2S Sulaiman for his fantastic rhyming poem in English and **Antoine** for putting fantastic effort into his work on fossils.

Pastoral

Years 3 and 4

The following boys are Heroes for being 'super enthusiastic in science'

3H:	Ranvir and Akesh
3S:	Constantine and Jerry
4H:	Sheldon and Owais
4P:	Aadit and Masood
4S:	Luke and Atharva

These boys are nominated as Heroes for great improvement with their handwriting

3H:	Darwin
3S:	Baden
4H:	Daniyal
4P:	Dev
4S:	Krish

Years 5 and 6

Boys in Years 5 and 6 have been showing their sporting prowess recently:

Year 5

Ismail	5H	Exceptional play in cricket
James	5H	Selected to play for the district football team
George	5P	Exceptional play in cricket
Jake	5P	Selected to play for the district football team
Henry	5P	Outstanding in athletics lessons
Antony	5S	Selected to play for the district football team

Year 6

Parth	6H	Exceptional play in cricket
Kai Tian	6H	Super play for the school cricket team
Louie	6S	Super play for the school cricket team
George	6S	Exceptional play in cricket
Jonas	6S	Super play for the school cricket team
Zak	6S	Super play for the school cricket team

Years 7 and 8

7LC: Aqil for an enthusiastic, cheerful and positive attitude all week.

7MMC: Robert for earning the most House Points in the week and great performance in the cricket fixture.

For earning the most House Points this week, showing hard work and commitment in a range of subjects.

7LC: Faizaan

7MMC: Zain M

8KWL: Zega for an excellent attitude towards exam week. He was calm, motivated and had a great attitude.

8MM: Sam T for an excellent attitude towards exam week. He was motivated, had a great attitude and was very polite throughout.

For a dedicated start to their final half term at Homefield - these boys are showing commitment to ending the year strongly:

8KWL: Vidwat

8MM: Samuel B



Wellbeing at Homefield

Over the course of this year, we have piloted a school written 'Study Skills' program for our Year 5 pupils. Initially, when asked what Study Skills meant, Year 5 focused on being able to study and remember what they need for their homework or exams rather than thinking about the skills they need to develop in order to help reach their potential. It is easy to recognise that this is a much harder part of school life when you are required to be independent and no matter what our strengths are, there are always new skills or improvements that we can make. In addition, Year 5 have considered what works for them as being the most important aspect of studying. Essentially, this has been presented to the boys as a program for them to understand themselves, the skills required to study effectively and to avoid burnout!

Within the program, we have talked to the boys about how the brain works, memory, scheduling, mind-set and organisation. Feedback has been hugely positive and as we move forward with this program, we will take this into account to then deliver to future form groups.

"It was helpful because it made me think about how to improve my studying and put myself into a good mind-set to study"

"The bit that was helpful was the study timetable as it was very useful; it helped me revise this half term"

"It was a helpful unit because now I know how to manage my time about studying. I can do my work and find my work without being stressed"

"It helped me understand to be organised (timetables and where your work is) and keep good mental health."



Parents' and Friends' Association

REMINDER

The deadline to order your Doughies Pizza kit for collection on Friday 25th June is 6.00pm today, 18th June. Thanks to all of those who have already purchased kits, raising £2 per kit for Sutton Foodbank, our chosen charity. All details can be found in Classlist.

Thank you !!!!

Science

Year 3 have been learning about seed dispersal and have enjoyed carrying out an investigation into how the size and mass of a seed affects its dispersal. To do this they made paper helicopters and measured how long it took large helicopters to fall compared to small ones, and they varied the mass by placing different numbers of paper clips onto them. They worked very well with each other to complete the investigations.



Last Friday, **Year 6** visited ZSL London Zoo as part of an art and science cross-curricular trip. The boys attended a workshop on animal adaptations in the Zoo's Education Centre and then spent the rest of the day exploring the attractions. They also had the opportunity to study the animals' form and patterns by drawing them. The highlights were the penguins, the rainforest exhibit and the bug house! *'I really enjoyed the workshop, especially learning the difference between anatomical and behavioural adaptations.'* Aarush



Year 8 have had great fun this week investigating gas pressure. They made Alka-Seltzer rockets by reacting tablets with water inside a plastic film canister. The aim was to find the optimum ratio of tablet to water for the fastest rocket launch. They also experimented with the reaction between fizzy drinks and Mentos mints. The aim was to find which type of fizzy drink created the tallest fountain when Mentos mints were added. They concluded that Diet Coke was the best!



English

The Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award

The 'Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award 2021' is open for entries until **31st July 2021**. It is free to enter and is open to poets aged 11-17 years anywhere in the world. **The competition welcomes poems on any theme and of any length.**

Visit foyleyoungpoets.org for more information, and to submit your poems. (Please note that you must only submit unique work that has not entered competitions elsewhere or been previously published in any way).

About

The 'Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award' is the biggest poetry competition for 11-17 year olds in the world. Since it began, the Award has kick-started the career of some of today's most exciting new voices. Past winners include Jay Bernard, Sarah Howe, Helen Mort, Phoebe Power, Caroline Bird, Mukahang Limbu, Richard O'Brien and many more incredible poets.

You can submit poems yourself or through the school (see Mrs Colgate).

Mrs Colgate will be running a drop in poetry clinic for boys (Years 6-8) with poems they have already written that they may wish to refine further. **Friday lunch times in T10 from 1.45pm.**

Go on, you have nothing to lose. Express yourself – be the voice of your generation!



Learning Resources

Boys have been enjoying the wonderful new facilities offered in the Learning Resources Centre. This is a gentle reminder that the last day to borrow books from the LRC is **Friday 25th June**. All books must be returned by **Friday 2nd July**.



STEAM

Hugo, Samuel, Tosan and Sam have been working over the past two terms to complete their entry into the 'F1 in Schools' competition. 'F1 in Schools' is an international STEM competition in which children are asked to design and manufacture a miniature car out of the official F1 Model Block, using CAD design tools. Despite lockdown and the time restrictions we faced, the boys have remained focused on the project and have created a super entry, catching up on time lost through use of their lunch breaks. The boys' entry 'The Perfect Lap', will be tested in the next few weeks. The car will be powered by CO₂ cartridges and will be attached to a track by a nylon wire.

A big thank you to Mr Leung, who has supported us along the way and well done to the boys!



LONDON 2021 IF YOU WERE an ENGINEER WHAT WOULD YOU DO?®

This year, all boys across the school were given the opportunity to take part in the Leaders Award National Competition: "If you were an engineer what would you do?"

Each of our entries has now been graded by an engineer with either a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction-Shortlisted. All students who entered will receive a certificate with their grade from their STEAM teachers.

We continued with the competition despite lockdown and I am pleased to announce that out of 272 boys who took part, 180 boys received a Pass grade, 70 boys achieved a Merit grade and 6 boys achieved a Distinction grade.

Finally, there were 16 boys whose entries were graded at Distinction-Shortlisted, and these boys will have their entry showcased on the Leaders Award website (details to follow soon). These boys will now have their entry judged by the panel where they will have a chance to be crowned the winner for their year group within the London region.

Below are the list of boys whom have had their entry, awarded at Distinction-Shortlisted:

Reception – Yohaana
Year 1 - Hussain
Year 2 – Evan
Year 3 – Rudy and Joshua
Year 4 – Calum and Jayden
Year 5 – Aaron
Year 6 – Philip, Shun and Arnav
Year 7 – Oliver, Ziyad, Harry and Faizaan
Year 8 – Qasim

Well done to all the boys who took part and a big thank you to all the STEAM teaching staff!



'Give to Others: Olympic Walk Update!

In our last addition of Headlines, we revealed our virtual charity event, our Olympic Walk. Boys of all ages have been sharing their distances and it has been incredible to read and see photos of the beautiful locations that have been visited as well as learn of just how many miles have been clocked up. We have been very impressed with Gianluca (1H), who walked just under 25 miles during a family holiday: quite the distance for a 6 year old and Oscar (5S), who recorded a total of 145,000 steps whilst attending Cricket club during the half term! We hope that you have been following this event on our social media pages where many of these photos have been shared.

The big question is, did we make the distance... yes we did!

We have seen some amazing contributions from both the boys, families and staff with our top recorded individual total distances - from the Juniors we have Peter who completed 14 miles and in the Senior Department, Owais completed 27 miles. 4P recorded a combined total of 110 miles completed; a great family contribution from Stefano and Gianluca who walked a fantastic 50 miles, and from the staff, Mr Towers who recorded a staggering total of 60 miles! Well done to all who participated. A special mention also to Andrew in Y6 who whilst out walking also managed to complete a sea life rescue on the beach and send a stranded fish back to safety.

Obviously, besides being an opportunity to come together as a team ourselves, a Just Giving Page was opened to raise money for the children's mental health charity 'Place2Be'. We are delighted to have raised £210, so far, for their cause in supporting children and young people across the UK. Although we have concluded our walk, it is not too late to donate if you would like to: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/homefieldprep>. Thank you to everyone for all the photos, encouragement and to those of you who have donated already.



Sport

U8 Cricket v Surbiton

On Tuesday 8th June, all of the Year 3 pupils played in a cricket fixture against Surbiton.

The Dolphins team played extremely well but lost narrowly due to some excellent bowling and fielding from the visiting team. Homefield bowled first and Josh got two wickets in his over including a super caught and bowled. Mikaeel hit the middle stump with his third ball and Hamza bowled a wonderful over, conceding just two runs. With the bat, Ranvir hit a great boundary. Constantine and Ailyan both batted well. A wonder catch by a Surbiton pupil at mid-wicket was a highlight. Overall, a great game in the sun.

The Sharks won their game with some super play by the whole team. Thomas and Oba scored an impressive 13 off their two overs with Yaseen and Mustafa also pushing the score up, helping Homefield to a total of 254. Surbiton were up against some lovely bowling by Baden as he got two wickets and super fielding by Aled kept their score to only 246. A great win, boys.

The Homefield Dragons batted first and got off to a great start with quick running by Rudy, before Kamran and Aarav (2) both hit fours. Yusuf, Zohad, Hanchen and Kota added further fours with lovely shots, and Jerry showed improved running between the wickets. Homefield scored 44 runs in total and defended it well at the start when Kamran bowled out a batsman and Rudy got a run out with some quick thinking. Aarush bowled very well only conceding one run from his over, but Surbiton consistently kept up their scoring meaning they were ahead by two runs going in to the final over. Homefield needed a wicket but despite a good over by Aarav, Surbiton scored a further six runs to finish on 52 in total, winning by eight runs. Well played, Homefield Dragons!

Year 4 Cricket v Hawthorns

Thirty of Homefield's Year 4 pupils took on Hawthorns in three excellent matches on the 27th May. The 'A' team batted first and got off to a great start when Luke hit three fours. Arvind then hit a six and a four before some fantastic running between the wickets by Olivier and Noah brought the team to a total of 62 runs.

Jaysen (2), Charlie, Arjun and Nathan all took wickets to halt the Hawthorns' run chase but after some good running, Hawthorns were ahead by two runs going in to the last over.

Lachlan steamed in and bowled the batsman out (minus five runs) to put Homefield ahead before Hawthorns secured victory in the final two balls, finishing on 67 to win by five runs.

Homefield tasted victory in the 'B' and 'C' team matches. Calum, Adam, Dev, Amran, Abdullah, Damon (2) and Sam (2) all hit fours as Homefield motored to 77 runs in the 'B' team match. Thanks to some excellent bowling and fielding, Hawthorns finished 27 runs short, on 50. Our wicket takers were Abdullah, Rohan P, Amran, Austin and Damon (2).

On the 'C' team pitch, Hawthorns batted first and set Homefield 39 runs to win. Well done to Jonathan and Ethan who both got wickets in their overs. It was great to see Homefield attack the bowling – Ethan, Musa, Rohan B, Vihaan, Jonathan R and Isaiah all hit a four, and Jonathan R also hit a six! Homefield needed three to win from the last over and were guided home by Hardik and Isaiah who hit eight runs to secure a six-run victory, with Homefield finishing on 45 runs. Well done to all Year 4 boys for their participation in this fixture!

Year 4 Cricket v Aberdour

On Thursday 10th June, two Homefield teams took on Aberdour at Sutton Cricket Club. In an extremely close game, the U9 C/D mixed team lost narrowly to the opposition. Homefield won the toss and Captain Lewis elected to bat first. A great cover drive by Alex Z set Homefield on their way and some super running between the wickets by Rohan K and Rohan P pushed the score on. Lewis hit a great four and then found the boundary again with his next shot. Homefield posted a score of 256. In reply, Aberdour scored quickly but Kaiyan got a wicket first ball and Jonathan F bowled very well. Aberdour scored 261, winning by 5 runs but it was a super game in the sunshine at SCC, enjoyed by all.

The A/B mixed team also batted first but lost too many wickets which cost them 20 runs, finishing on 26.

Ewan, Damon and Noah all hit boundaries to get the score up. Until the last four overs, it looked like Homefield would successfully defend 26 when Felix bowled out a batsman and Homefield fielded very well. A run out made the scores close, but Aberdour pulled away in the last two overs to win by 17 runs. Well done to Homefield for a brilliant attitude and resilience, which meant they never gave up and made it difficult for the batsmen with their accurate bowling and quick fielding.

Year 5 Cricket v Cumnor House

On Tuesday 15th June, all of the Year 5 pupils travelled to Cumnor House to play in the last cricket match of their season. It turned out to be one of the best fixture afternoons Mr Matthews had seen at Homefield since joining in 2008!

'A' team

The 'A' team bowled first and every player had an over in a timed innings. The boundary was about a mile away but the outfield was fast. Good bowling from Kailan, Rahul and Vedanth restricted the hosts. The breakthrough came when Rayhaan bowled out the opener with his first ball and took a second wicket with his 4th ball with a great catch from Oscar at mid-wicket. George was fantastic as wicket keeper and several run appeals were rejected by the umpire but led to pressure on the batsman. Magsud and Ismail bowled well with Ismail picking up the third wicket, bowling the Cumnor pupil middle stump. In the penultimate over, Iliham who began the season in the 'D' squad, stepped up to bowl at 'A' level for the first time with a hard ball. With a dot ball first he then spun the ball taking the bails off leg stump and the whole team celebrated. But Iliham was not done: two dot balls later he picked up his second wicket, caught and bowled, a two wicket maiden over, outstanding! Cumnor posted a score of 65.

Homefield had an uneasy start with the bat as Ismail missed a ball that clipped his off stump. George looked comfortable hitting two boundaries, keeping the run rate up. Oscar batted with aggression scoring quickly but getting out. Rahul came in fully aware that more runs per over were needed and played with control to get Homefield close to the target.

Sport/continued

George got out, which led to Vir and Rahul needing five to win off the last over. Rahul hit a single. There were four balls remaining. Vir, who is relocating to Singapore, playing his last 'A' team fixture for Homefield, cut the ball for four runs to win the game. An amazing result against a very competitive Cumnor house team.

'B' team

What a way to end Year 5 cricket fixtures!! Homefield won the toss in a 12 over pairs game; Homefield got the best possible start with 3 wickets in the first 2 overs leaving Cumnor House on 187 and it didn't stop there! Homefield got a further 12 wickets, shared around the team, a direct run out from Adharsh and 3 wickets in Pierce's over, leaving Cumnor House with 183 runs!!

Wickets: Adharsh 1, Raece 2, Pierce 3, Kavin 2, Minghao 1, Sulaiman 1 Malachi 1, Aahan 1, Dhilan 1

Homefield went into bat without any pressure. Homefield's positive batting and quick running brought us to a total of 269, winning by 86 runs!!! A brilliant day out for the 'B' team and a great afternoon for the year group.

'C' team

The 'C' team having been unbeaten all season, faced their toughest test so far and were more than equal to it. The accurate bowling of Aidan, Tobi and Zayn with maiden overs and super fielding skills from Mikey, Muhammed, Alex, Krish and Jeyavel, led to Cumnor House only reaching 73. With the bat, Homefield attacked from the first over with Aaron smashing a boundary for four, first ball! Shaan came in and promptly whacked two sixes way over the boundary. Lucas followed suit hitting a huge six and a four. In fact, the whole team batted well and won the game by 15 runs.

'D' team

On the 'D' team pitch, Homefield won the toss and bowled first, getting three wickets in the innings. Aamir and Adrian both bowled out a batsman, and there was a run out by Jaston. Homefield saved many fours with excellent fielding on the boundary, particularly by Daniyal. Cumnor House scored a total of 62 runs.

When batting, Homefield were superb, hitting 14 boundaries! Adrian (2), Denis, Rishi, Henry (2), Nikshep, Shiven, Yusuf (2) and Luke (2), all hit fours, and there were even some sixes hit by Henry, Nikshep and Seb! Homefield's big hitting and quick running meant they surpassed Cumnor House's 62 with two overs to play, before Luke and Seb came in and built up a big lead of 23 runs, with Homefield finishing on 85. Fantastic batting, bowling and fielding - all boys showed a huge improvement in this match since the start of the season.

U13 Cricket v Ewell Castle

Homefield's U13 'A' team played their third and final game of the season against Ewell Castle. Ewell Castle batted first and scored 149, despite great bowling by Tosan and Niraj.

Homefield started the chase well and were 75-1 after 10 overs. However, 5 overs later, multiple wickets tumbled, leaving a tough job on the hands of the remaining batters. Homefield lost by 15 runs, despite good innings by Oli C, Sam S, and Tom.

Tweet of the Week



Homefield Prep School @HomefieldSchool · Jun 9
#Reception boys in Tigers and Monkeys worked together to walk 10.5 miles this morning as part of Homefield's Olympic Walk #GiveToOthers #JustGiving



4

Keep abreast with Homefield news as it happens...

Please share and retweet!



<https://twitter.com/HomefieldSchool>

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

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

Homefield Gallery

Year 8: Jijith, Qasim and Vansh - Pax City



Music Congratulations

Many congratulations to Vincent in 2S who has passed Grade 5 piano with Merit.

This is a magnificent achievement for a Year 2 boy.

(Grade 5 is the level required for a GCSE music practical exam and the required level for scholarship applications at 11+).



Baby News

The Homefield family are pleased to welcome the safe arrival of baby Jake Godly and Ms Bruton's young man, Arthur. Mums and babies are thriving!



Jake



Arthur

End of Term Arrangements

Below are the end of term arrangements for each year group:

Pre Prep	Thursday 8 th July 3.45pm
Years 1 & 2	Thursday 8 th July 3.50pm
Years 3 & 4	Thursday 8 th July 3.55pm
Years 5 & 6	Thursday 8 th July 4.00pm
Years 7 & 8	Friday 9 th July 12 noon

Please note that there are **no after school clubs** in the final week of term and **no Late Bus provision**.