

Headlines

Autumn Term
18th October 2019

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

ISI inspection report



Year 5 ready for adventure at Condover Hall Residential Centre

Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents

Good news to end the ½ term as your kind support for our harvest collection provided a record-breaking bundle of food for charity. The older boys helped with packing all this up for our friends at the Sutton Foodbank, who will share your generosity with scores of local families who find themselves in really challenging circumstances.

Not good news, but ‘fake news’... as a couple of parents raised a story they had seen in a weekend paper: a journalist suggested that Common Entrance (an assessment many of our older boys take) was being scrapped. This is simply not the case. The Independent Schools Exams Board (the ISEB, who produce the Common Entrance 13+ as well as 11+ papers and 11+ ‘pre-test’ papers for schools) is simply updating and improving the curriculum offered and assessment papers accordingly. This is what good exam boards do. I should know, as I sit on the ISEB Academic Board and help set the History papers each year. You can see the real story here, should you have interest: <https://www.iseb.co.uk/News/Confirmation-of-Future-Development-of-CE>

Parents will know that as well as providing annual briefings on such matters to you, I usually set aside several hours per week to ‘hand hold’ the parents of older boys through the complexity of senior transfer, in order to make matters simple, provide up to date intelligence on what exam boards and senior schools require, and to make sure parents are on the right pathway. The outcomes speak for themselves. Have a look at our most recent outcomes at senior transfer and be confident: <https://bit.ly/2BomC6o> (Please note that this document from our website is also on the last page of Headlines today for your convenience.)

The rains have poured these last couple of weeks however, this has not slowed our progress. It was great to see Year 5 enjoy an outward-bound residential course at Condover Hall earlier this week. Year 3 also had a great day out Bough Beech Reservoir.

We have managed several more competitive football fixtures and I would like to thank all the parents who came along to cheer the boys on.

Have a good ½ term, the boys are back on Monday 4th November.

John Towers
Headmaster



Condover Hall exploits



Early Years Department

The boys in Early Years have had a busy last week before the end of this first half term. We would like to wish them a happy two weeks off and strongly encourage a good rest as they are all noticeably tired. Below is a list of optional homework tasks for the boys; we would love to see photographic evidence if you manage any of them:

- Have a family meal
- Spend time with friends
- Play outside
- Try to catch a falling leaf
- Collect some conkers
- Make an autumn collage (indoors or outdoors!)
- Carve a pumpkin

As the weather is changing and will most likely be considerably colder and wetter on our return to school in November, please can we encourage all boys to have wellington boots and regulation raincoats.

Just a reminder to all Reception parents, we will be sending reading books home after half term. The boys will receive a reading book three times a week, with a yellow reading diary. Please sign the diary before returning the book to school as we like to listen to the boys read in class.

If your son is in **Monkeys class** he will bring a reading book home on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

If your son is in **Tigers class** he will bring a reading book home on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.



Junior Department

Last week, we enjoyed a lovely form assembly from 2H as they talked very knowledgeably and enthusiastically about the solar system. The boys told us lots of facts and they even had fabulous 3D furry planets to show everyone! This week it was the turn of 1H to take assembly and the topic was 'endangered animals'. The boys spoke confidently and everyone joined in with a song. The assembly finished with a great question and answer session. Thank you 2H and 1H!

Last Friday, Year 3 paid a visit to Bough Beech Water Treatment Works. The previous week the boys enjoyed an excellent pre-visit talk from Carla, one of the education officers from the education centre. The different steps that are taken to make water fit for human consumption were clearly demonstrated with her interactive presentation. The boys were able to recall much of what they had learned from Carla during the actual visit. They were very excited to be in a working environment and rose well to our expectations of good behaviour. They were shown around each stage of the purification process.

The boys loved seeing the screening out of fish, vegetation and other detritus and now realise how dirty 'fresh' water in the rivers and reservoirs is! The part of the day when they ran up and along the dam in the rain was good fun.

The man-made reservoir is enormous and despite the apparent endless rain, not full! The boys were very inquisitive asking sensible questions and providing intelligent, well thought out answers. They were amazed to learn that during the course of our visit, water had been taken from the reservoir, purified and sent out for us to use in our homes and that a staggering 55 million litres is purified each day! Many thanks to those parents who helped on the trip.

We have been very pleased to have some parents visiting us to enhance our learning this half term. Year 1 have been looking at timelines and finding out what they were like as babies. To compliment this, Yusuf's mother kindly brought in his baby brother, Musa, to see the boys. The boys were thrilled to get to know Musa and learnt a great deal about what he is able to do at his young age.

Our Special Award this week goes to:
Aldous in Elephants for enthusiastically joining in all areas of Nursery life.

Our Students of the Week are:

Euan in Tigers for being such a kind boy.

Jaydon in Tigers for beginning to have more confidence in class.

Theo in Monkeys for his progression in writing his name.

Esa in Monkeys for always being so polite and helpful.

Homefield Heroes

1H Aiden for focusing really hard in all lessons and trying his hardest and **Atharv** for being kind and thoughtful as he is always helping members of the class in lessons.

1S Ethan for his great enthusiasm for everything he does in school and for being helpful and **Yuri** for his lovely expressive reading and for making great contributions to class discussions. Well done, boys!

2H David for being kind, caring and thoughtful towards others and **Ranvir** for showing resilience and persistence at all times.

2S Daniel for being reliable and sensible around the school and **Sulaymaan** for improved classwork and being willing and eager to participate in extra activities.

3H Saaketh for his quiet, diligent approach to his work, **Lachlan** for his excellent contributions to class discussions and **Dev** for his neat presentation in Maths.

3S Rohan for really challenging himself and working hard and **Olivier** for being consistently excellent, super behaviour and great attitude to learning.

Year 2 were delighted to welcome Jack's grandparents and father on Wednesday afternoon. They came in to talk to the boys about Sikhism which is Year 2's topic in RS this term. The boys had prepared some questions and were so interested and engaged during the session.

We hope the boys all enjoy the half term holiday; they have worked extremely hard since September.

Parents' Association

Monday 4th November is the deadline for booking your tickets in advance to get 'early bird' prices for Fireworks night! This is a popular event and enjoyed by all the family. There will be a fantastic fireworks show, food stalls and other stalls too. Thanks to parents who are helping at this event, but we do still need more volunteers so please contact your Class Rep if you can assist.

Dates for your diary:

Friday 8th November

MUFTI Day

Fireworks Night 6.00pm

Friday 15th November

HA Meeting 8.30am

Friday 29th November

Christmas Coffee Morning 8.30am

Friday 6th December

Christmas Fair 3.45p.m.

Homefield Association MUFTI Day

On Friday 8th November, there will be a mufti day in aid of the Homefield Association Christmas Fair!

Boys are invited to wear home clothes **in exchange for bringing a donation for the Christmas Fair.**

We are asking the Senior boys to bring donations for the children's tombola. e.g. pocket toys, games, stationery, books - all new items please.

We are asking boys from the EYD and Junior Department to bring donations for the Secret Gift Room - new gifts for parents e.g. candles, socks, mugs, travel cups, toiletries, etc.

The theme of the mufti day is House colours, so the boys in Year 3 upwards should wear at least one item of clothing in their house colour.

Boys from Nursery to Year 2 may choose to wear something in the colour of their favourite firework, in readiness for the fireworks display later that evening. Many thanks in advance for your kind donations.



Science News

Science and Art Fusion

In Science and Art Fusion Club, the boys have completed their animal skull drawings. They made some creative borders around the drawings to really show off their work. In addition, they have been experimenting with the diffusion of ink by drawing with water soluble pens on filter paper and spraying with water. They then watched as the colours diffused through the paper making some wonderful patterns. They then used these to make prints of their patterns on paper. A simple, yet fun way to learn about the diffusion of liquids.

It is the 150th year of the periodic table this year. Russian chemist Dmitrii Mendeleev created this table of elements, which revolutionised chemistry. Year 6 have marked this sesquicentennial by making some 3D element cubes, which are now displayed on the wall of the laboratory.



SuperClubs News



SuperClubs will be welcoming a Zoo Lab to the after-school club on 12th November.

Zoo Lab will be bringing spiders, snakes and other animals, so if boys want to get some 1:1 interaction they will need to book a space in good time. Please make your booking for a space through your on-line SuperClubs account.

Learning Resources Centre News

The LRC is pleased to announce the appointment of new Student Librarians; the amount of interest was amazing! Well done to the successful Year 6 boys and welcome to the LRC team, we are certain that you will do a great job!

- Aaditya
- Alex
- Faizaan
- Carter
- Dron



The Librarians will be organising a Christmas competition for the whole school, more details after half term.

TPR (Theology, Philosophy, Religion) Competition



Create an A4 poster for Britis
Deadline: Friday 8th November

All details on Firefly for Junior and Senior Departments

Harvest Donations



Year 8 boys delivered Harvest Festival donations to Sutton Foodbank – many thanks to everyone for their generosity.

Under 8s v Reigate St Mary's

Well done to all the U8s boys who played in the Reigate St Mary's this week.

Homefield's 'B' and 'C' opened up with good wins over Reigate St Mary's. Sheldon H (2), Lachlan R and Austin B were all on the score sheet for Homefield.

The 'C' team also scored 4 goals with Damon H (2) and Charlie B scoring Homefield's goals.

The 'A' team had a very tough and competitive game against skilled opposition. Noah P was the only goal scorer on the day, however, some good goalkeeping and defending stopped Homefield from scoring more!

Well done to all the boys.

U9 Football Fixtures

On Thursday 3rd October, our Year 4 footballers played against Ewell Castle School and The Mall in an entertaining afternoon of fixtures. Firstly, our 'A' team responded well to going a goal down and turned the match around to win 3-1 against Ewell Castle with goals from Magsud, Ismail and Raece. Meanwhile, the Ewell Castle 'B' team proved too strong for our 'C' team who lost 4-0 despite battling hard throughout the match.

After the two opening U9 games, there were A-E matches against The Mall. Yusuf's well-taken goal meant that our 'E' team won 1-0. Dhruv, on his Homefield debut, scored for the 'D' team who won by the same score line. Krish scored a double for the 'C' team who were 2-0 winners and Kailan, Kavin and Rayhaan added to an own goal as Homefield ran out 4-0 winners in the 'B' team match. On the 'A' team pitch, goals from Ismail, Raece, Oscar (2) and Jake (2) secured a comfortable 6-2 win. A special mention must go to Oscar for a thunderous strike from outside the area which arrowed in to the opposite top corner of the goal - a fantastic strike which was well celebrated by his team mates! Regardless of the score lines, it was brilliant to see all of Year 4 enjoying representing the school on a superb afternoon of football. The way the boys played as a team and supported each other was excellent; the victories were an added bonus!

U11 Football v Claremont

A Team - lost 1-3

Homefield played some excellent football in the first half and were rewarded with a well worked goal, when Riccardo threaded a fine through ball to Omasin who finished with a well-placed strike in the bottom corner. As the game wore on, Homefield started to play with less energy and dynamism. Claremont capitalised on this and scored three goals in quick succession. Homefield pressed for a late goal but were denied.

B Team - Won 4-3

The 'B' team produced an entertaining game of football this week in winning 4-3 against Claremont School. Prabodha was commanding in goal using his voice to control and organize his defense. Both Jasen and Zain I were both strong and tackled well, passing the ball quickly into midfield. Both Gajan and Rishi P worked hard in defense and attack to supply great balls to the strikers who finished off the good teamwork with goals; a hat-trick from Oliver B and one goal from Akshay, who calmly finished off inside the penalty area.

C Team- Won 2-1

Another excellent game, where the opposition raced to a 1-0 lead. However, Homefield replied with a Nishad goal from a fantastic Raamin corner. Aaditya then struck the winner from a brilliant Ronak turn and pass.

U13 Football v Kingswood House

All boys in Years 7 and 8 performed well this week in the match against Kingswood House.

The 1st team enjoyed most of the possession but didn't capitalise on their chances in the second half to win the game more comfortably. Tom H's through ball sent Yasir through on goal, his shot was parried out and the goal poacher, Zohaib, coolly finished from inside the penalty area. Sam T again made important saves in goal with Kwame defending well throughout the match. Yasir fired Homefield into the lead from an acute angle with further chances falling to Tom H, Harry H and Sam S. Tosan had his late effort skim the upright to end the game 2-2.

The 2nd teams match against Kingswood House also ended in a 2-2 draw. 'Man of the Match' was Jijith T who had an excellent game. Homefield's goals were scored by Theo M and Qasim C, his second goal in two games.

In the 3rd team's match, an incredible 9 goals were scored during the game. Jaineel P, Sam B and Anthony A were on the scoresheet for Homefield.

Well done to all Year 7 and 8 boys for the effort and commitment during these matches. Keep up the good work!

The boys have a match against Willington School on Monday 4th November. The day the boys return after half term.

U13 Football v Hawthorns and Solefield

The U13 1st, 2nd and 3rd teams all played two mini fixtures against Hawthorns and Solefield this week. In the opening games against Hawthorns, the 1st team won by a solitary goal after Harry H threaded a through ball to Yasir S who coolly slotted the ball home.

The 2nd team drew 1-1 with Qasim C scoring for Homefield. The 3rd team also drew 0-0.

In the match against Solefield, the 1st team defense had to work hard to earn a 0-0 draw. Sam T in goal was called upon to make import saves, along with Anuj and Tosan who were both outstanding in defense. In midfield, both Sam S and Tom H had to show some real grit and determination in very competitive midfield duels.

The 2nd teams match against Solefield was very even until late in the game. Daniyal P scored a good team goal, however Solefield added further goals late in the game.

The 3rd team game against Solefield ended all square at 1-1 after Sami SP scored with an incredible goal from near the half way line; over the goalkeeper's head, just clearing the crossbar and into the back of the net!



Music

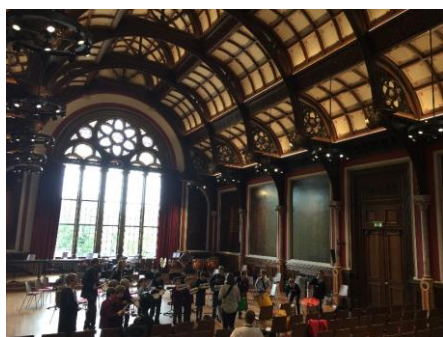
Charterhouse School Wind Band Event Tuesday 1st October 2019

Six of our Year 7 boys attended the Charterhouse School Wind Band Event. They played alongside 38 other pupils from six other schools in 3 groups (*Amazing Grace*, *Wallace and Gromit*, and *Strike Up the Band*) and as one large ensemble (*Dr Who Theme*). The boys had a great time and they all performed very well in their respective groups.



Dulwich College Orchestra Day Thursday 3rd October

Six of our Year 5 boys attended the Dulwich Orchestra day where they participated in a varied array of activities. They performed *Star Wars* and *Summertime* with the combined schools' orchestra but also sang two rounds in a choir, performed a samba piece and took part in a science experiment. For the science, the boys wore headsets and their brain activity was displayed on a laptop screen! We could see that when you play music that the whole brain lights up.



King's College School Orchestra Afternoon, Monday 14th October

The KCS orchestra event was attended by over 100 pupils from 14 prep schools. The boys spent the afternoon rehearsing *Gaillarde* from *Le Roi S'amuse* by Delibes, an *Andante* by William Boyse and Parry's *Jerusalem*. They worked in sections for the first part then the giant orchestra was assembled in the concert hall where the music was stitched together. Once appropriately filled with sandwiches, the boys gave a great performance of the three pieces for parents at the end of the afternoon. The orchestra was confidently led by Harry in Year 6 and accompanied by some somewhat dodgy cymbal playing by Mr Meyers!



Tweet of the Week



Homefield Prep School @HomefieldSchool · Oct 16

Our #Year5 boys at @ConoverHall have had a great final afternoon and evening. We are looking forward to seeing you back in school later today
#CreatingMemoriesSince1870 @JCAAdventure

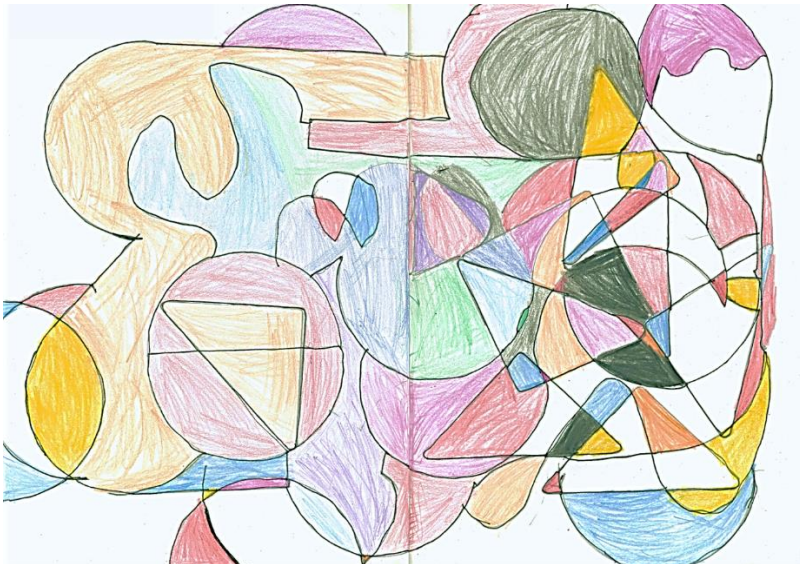


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The Homefield Art Gallery

Olivier D 3S - Swerve Colours



A course that parents may be interested in ...



Keep abreast with Homefield news as it happens...   

School Place Offers from selective Independent and State Schools 2018/2019

Independent Boys' Day and Boarding Schools

Name of School	Number of Places Awarded
King's College School	6
Westminster School	1
Eton College	2
Royal Grammar School Guildford	2
Hampton School	4
Trinity School	1
Whitgift School	6
Reed's School	4

Independent Co-Educational Day and Boarding Schools

Name of School	Number of Places Awarded
Kingston Grammar School	1
City of London Freeman's School	3
Caterham School	2
Epsom College	1
St John's School	2
Ewell Castle	1

State Grammar Schools

Name of School	Number of Places Awarded
Wilson's School	3
Tiffin School	4
Sutton Grammar School	1
Wallington County Grammar School	3