

# Headlines

Summer Term

1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

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

ISI inspection report December 2021



*Senior Department Sports Day*

## Letter from the Headmaster

### Dear Parents

A great finish to what’s been a pivotal year for the School. Bucking the post pandemic national trend, our academic and pastoral outcomes remain very high. We draw close to the conclusion of our ambitious capital build programme. We also set a record for the School, with its first ‘double excellent’ awarded by the Independent Schools Inspectorate. Our focus on well-being and enjoyment, running alongside academic ambition, has really paid off. A real investment in the boys’ study skills and critical thinking prior, during, and after over those ‘lockdowns’ of 2021 has helped with these great results. All with your kind help, of course.

Unsurprisingly, our Year 6 for Sept 22 is entirely full, with a waitlist. We will run two form entry from Reception to Year 2 next year and then three form entry beyond that. Year 7 and 8 still remains a very attractive option for those sending boys on to independent schools at 13+. For those feeling the pull of state grammars at 11+ we exceeded our prior annual record (22) with a knockout 32 offers this year.

We have enjoyed some wonderful events with your support. The quality and commitment of the Year 6 drama production of ‘Treasure Island’ was notable. So good to see such a strong community presence at our series of Sports Days (despite the monsoon that landed on the Reception event). I also hope the timing of parent consultation days, after annual reports went out, helped parents know where their boys are and what next steps will look like. The boys had fun whilst you consulted with teachers, with our Classics Day and fitness activities.

We have a strong and slightly larger staff team for September. We say goodbye and thank you to some colleagues who are moving away: Mrs Shepherd and Ms Ryckaert overseas and Mr Soltysik, Mr Murani and Mrs Burgess closer to home. Mrs King is also retiring following her kind service and we will also be bidding farewell to Mrs Harper. We wish them all well with their new challenges and adventures.

Form classes for the next academic year will go out later next week.

The School site closes next Thursday, and we have a further event on Friday with a return to our tradition of a formal Prize Day for all boys from Year 4 to Year 8 at St Paul’s Church, Northey Avenue, Cheam, from 9.45am to midday.

The Church have asked us to be mindful of capacity, so please just two attendees per family for Prize Day.

Our work is never done, next academic year we come back better than ever. I hope, as well as the new all-weather sports pitch being in place, we will have smartened up the frontage with new fencing, gates, and tarmac. ‘Stop and Drop’ will start again. Enjoy the summer holidays, Autumn terms begins on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

Have a wonderful summer break.

**John Towers**  
Headmaster

## Lower School: Reception, Years 1 and 2

### Reception

Wow... it is hard to believe that we have finished our second to last week of the year! Time has really flown, and it is wonderful to see how much each of the boys has developed in character, confidence and academically since September. Thank you all for coming to meet with your son's class teacher at our parents' consultation day this week. It was lovely to catch up with you all and show you how much progress the boys have made in their writing and discuss their reports with you. Whilst you were having your meeting with your son's teacher, the boys were enjoying a fun filled day of activities delivered by the 'Dino Girl' - Kay from the Travelling Natural History.



*The dinosaurs await!*

Thank you to all involved with making the day run smoothly and ensuring the boys thoroughly enjoyed themselves whilst their teachers were busy.

The boys also all enjoyed our trip to 'Your Space' in Sears Park last week and it was a great opportunity for them to practise their listening skills and their ability to follow instructions whilst the volunteers spoke to them about bees, minibeasts and their habitats and what lives in and around a pond.



*Ready for a spot of beekeeping*

They all walked well to and from the park and were conscious of safety when crossing the roads. They were also mindful of pedestrians that we saw on our journey. Following on from our trip, the boys wrote an independent sentence in their writing books about their favourite part of the visit or something new they had learnt.

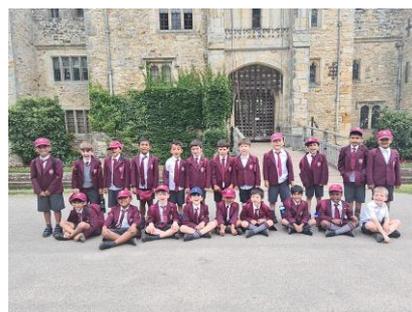
The Reception team wish all the boys the best of luck as they move up to Year 1 and we hope you have a restful summer holiday.

### Years 1 and 2

As we gallop to the end of this Summer Term, the boys continue to enjoy the many varied fun activities. Sports Day for Years 1 and 2 was a great success, organised brilliantly by our sports department staff. Year 8 pupils were an extra helpful support, encouraging and organising the younger boys to reach their full potential with the priority to have fun. We are all proud of our Year 1 and Year 2 boys who participated with great sportsmanship.

This week, we all enjoyed the performance of 'Toby's Ark' with Year 2 leading, showcasing their great acting skills and Year 1 as supportive cast extras.

Year 1 experienced a wonderful and interesting trip to Hever Castle to reinforce and enrich their knowledge and understanding of the Tudors. The tour guide was impressed by their knowledge. So much so, she even said they had been the most knowledgeable of all her school tours so far this summer! Well done, boys!



*Just about to enter the castle*

## Homefield Heroes

### Tigers

**Ini** for fantastic efforts and improvement in his fine motor skills – particularly when using scissors.

**Alan** for excellent effort in his maths work, especially working out 2 digit odd and even numbers!

### Monkeys

**Philip** for his excellent knowledge of our topic.

**Aarib** for his consistent good behaviour and always making the right choices.

**Eesa** for his consistent good behaviour and always making the right choices.

**1H Michael** for historical contributions on our school trip this week, **Johann** for the wonderful improvement in his cursive handwriting and **Yohaam** for great enthusiasm towards his writing tasks.

**2H Yahya** for excellent effort when learning to tell the time, **Ralph** for putting his best effort in during rehearsals for 'Toby's Ark' and **Aun** for fantastic effort when writing a diary entry.

**2S Euan** for fantastic delivery of his line during 'Toby's Ark' and **Yuvi** for writing a fabulous fantasy setting in English.



*Arts and crafts at Hever Castle*

Whilst staff participated in parent consultations this week, the boys enjoyed an immersive fun learning experience from the Natural History Museum, arts and crafts and additional sports. As always, our boys approached the new activities with great enthusiasm and enjoyed a fabulous day.

## Years 1 and 2

### Other Awards in Years 1 and 2

We celebrate kindness, resilience, organisation, and presentation with the following awards:

- **Kindness: Kangaroo award**
- **Courageous: Koala award**
- **Helping Hands award**
- **Presentation Panther**

### Kindness (Kangaroo award)

**1H Ryan** for thinking of others.

**2H Gianluca** for offering to share his belongings to his friends in need.

**2S Ayaan** for using his manners and being super polite throughout the week.

### Resilience (Courageous: Koala award)

**1H Harin** for trying to complete all his work.

**2H Raymin** for giving his all during the sack race on Sports Day.

**2S Jai** for bravely giving his all during the sports day obstacle race.

## Sports News

On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, the Junior pupils enjoyed a fantastic sports day. The event was the first of its kind for three years as parents and grandparents flooded in to watch the festival of sport. All the boys participated in seven athletic events in order to earn points for their House team. Year 8 pupils helped to demonstrate and organise events, giving stickers to pupils who showed great enthusiasm and technique. The eventual winners were Ellis House with 280 points. Well done to all the boys who took part and a special thank you to the teachers who helped run the activities.



### Organisation (Helping Hands award)

**1H Alex** for helping with library books.

**2H Hussain** for being super helpful during Sports Day.

**2S Charlie** for using his initiative to help Mrs Costain around the classroom.



### Presentation (Panther award)

**1H Jaiden** trying hard with his handwriting.

**2H Rayyan** for putting in extra effort when writing to ensure his work is neat.

**2S Jeff** for creating a brilliant piece of homework on the Taj Mahal.

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June the Seniors all competed in the House sports day. The sun was shining, and boys competed in a mixture of traditional events like tug of war and obstacle races plus the more recognised athletics events such as high jump and hurdles. Every single pupil gave 100% and it was a joyous day. It was so nice to finally have parents and spectators watching the action live. Only 22 points separated the four House teams at the midway point and the eventual winners were Walfords house who won the very last relay to claim the championship of 2022. A huge thank you to all the staff who helped run events on the day and the sports department for making the event run so smoothly.



## Information Technology



Please click on the link below to view this week's resource from National Online Safety.

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:aeb28caa-9d4e-34be-b1b7-fcb3a63dca67>

A copy of the PDF has also been included within the file section on your son's computing file.

## Chess News

A special mention to the Year 1 chess boys this year. The year group, collectively, has done very well and we don't want to single anyone out. Some of the boys have been able to practise at home with other family members and so are a little more experienced with some of the more difficult rules of the game such as recognising 'checkmate' and 'stalemate'. Well done to these boys. Other boys have done superbly well to join in with school chess club once a week when they cannot play at home because not everyone has someone at home who is able to play chess! Whatever level each Year 1 boy has reached by the end of term, they have all shown much progress from when they started. All the boys that finished the year know how to sit down and take it in turns to play, to move the pieces and they have demonstrated greater powers of concentration which should help them in other walks of life!

Congratulations to the following:

Zien S, Aldous B, Mirsub K, Aaron C, Kiran G, Mikael Z, Johann, Louis, Shriyan M, Roshan P, Ryan N, Alex B & Arish R-M.

In news outside school, it is great to see boys playing in competitions. The latest result to be reported is that Darwin V (4H) competed in the St Alban's Regional Megafinal and did so well, he has now qualified for the National Gigafinal stage.

Well done!

## Music

It's been a busy half term in the Music department. Preparations for the summer ensemble concert series meant seeing many a boy rehearsing in Tutor time as well as lunchtime throughout the week. Year 6 excelled with their singing during 'Treasure Island'. They also performed splendidly in two assemblies! This half-term also saw the forming of our very own Homefield Prep Symphony Orchestra, with almost 60 students coming together in the Performance Hall on a Thursday lunchtime to rehearse the Finale from 'Stravinsky's Firebird'.



Boys in years 5-8 spent the summer term learning to play the ukulele, with many also choosing to purchase one to use at home. Over the last month, many boys have used their skills to work in groups to compose their own songs.



## Toby's Ark

Year 1 and 2, under the excellent tutelage of Mrs Walker, Mrs Costain and Ms Rowe, performed 'Toby's Ark' to both our boys and parents on Tuesday. Audiences were delighted with songs from cultures near and far. It was wonderful to see our boys being animals and sailors!



Homefield boys continued their large scale singing with Year 3 learning 'One and a million' and Years 4 to 8 have been preparing 'The World in Union' for their respective prize giving ceremonies.

Finally, many congratulations to **Darwin from 4H** who has successfully passed Grade 1, guitar.

## Science Quiz

Well done to the Homefield Prep Years 5 and 6 Science Quiz Finals team who came 15<sup>th</sup> in the National finals and should be very proud of their achievements (Sebastian H, Alexander H and George B).

## Mathematics News

Last week, six boys from Years 6-8 took part in the very difficult Junior Kangaroo Challenge!

The results are in, and as always, our boys have done exceptionally well!

Well done to Zayn, Dhilan and Denis (Y6), Ansh (Y7) and Mannan (Y8) for qualifying. A special 'shout out' to Aahan (Y6) and Andrew (Y7) who both received a merit for their fantastic scores! Well done, boys.



## IF YOU WERE AN ENGINEER WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Congratulations to our Winners of the National Leaders Award competition. Boys attended a special ceremony at Kingston University on Thursday afternoon.

- Reception - Charlie "Electric Ice Cream Van"
- Year 3 - Maximilian "The Arm Flex"
- Year 4 - Yaseen "The Identifier Bin"
- Year 5 - Amran "Outside Foam Bag"
- Year 6 - Denis "The Moving Bin"
- Year 8 - Robert "The Monoxide Eater"



## Learning Resources Centre

All books are to be returned by **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July** at the very latest.



## Homefield Heroes

The following boys receive a special mention this week:

### Years 3 and 4

#### Year 3

Karsten (3H) and Zayn K (3S) for some excellent poetry work in French. Sulaiman (3H), Elijah (3P) and Faiz (3S) for consistent effort, respect, and behaviour throughout the year.

#### Year 4

Gary (4H) for consistent effort, respect, and behaviour throughout the year and Aled (4S) for his compassionate gesture to another boy during Sports Day. Rudy(4H) and Kamran (4S) for their manners and willingness to help staff throughout the year.

### Years 5 and 6

The following boys are to be congratulated for their good manners and politeness:

#### Year 5

Jamie 5H  
Rohan K 5P  
Abdullah 5S

#### Year 6

Mikey 6H  
Aaron 6P  
Muhammad 6S

### Years 7 and 8

The following boys are to be congratulated for excellent attitude and effort recently in maths:

Andrew 7MJM  
Cass 8CS

## Homefield Art Gallery

Tiger in the Storm - by Robert in Year 8, who created this piece eight years ago when he was in Juniors!



## Tweet of the Week

You Retweeted



Homefield Prep Sport @HomefieldSp0rt · Jun 27

A fantastic Senior #SportsDay - well done to all athletes! Overall results:

- Walfords
  - Bomfords
  - Grays
  - Ellis
- #HPSHouseSport

Homefield Prep School @HomefieldSchool · Jun 24

Another amazing Senior #SportsDay at Homefield Prep! Thank you to everyone who made it a huge success. It was wonderful to see so many families attend #CreatingMemoriesSince1870



Keep abreast with Homefield news as it happens ....

