

Headlines

Spring Term
20th March 2020

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

ISI inspection report

Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents

In the last couple of weeks, we've focused on the two things that really count; the well-being of the community and the continuance of good teaching and learning. It has been a challenge to balance the notions of a London 'working from home' and 'self-isolating' and the expectation of keeping schools running.

Looking after the boys and the staff, many of whom are in vulnerable groups, is a tall order. Now add in logistics you might normally take for granted such as school meals, minibus services, cleaning (and lots of extra cleaning) and a major capital build (which remains on track for now). Finally, to this heady mix, insert a stream of anxious boys, parents and colleagues needing help.

Let's keep things steady and as tight as we can. The staff (most of whom are juggling families and childcare just like you), have been superb and have held the line. We have also used our evenings to start planning for more on-line learning, as the government closes the school site to all but sons of 'key workers' from today. Please see my separate ParentMails today detailing childcare for next week and also the extension of our online learning resource via Firefly.

The School has made it through some tough times; a couple of World Wars, the Blitz and all that, so we shall prevail.

In such spirit let's finish with some normal running and good news:

The senior boys did brilliantly again in the Townsend Warner History Prize with high rankings for Vinicius, Qasim and Kwame. Likewise, in Latin, we saw Benjamin, Vinicius, Keshav and Anuj take us to second place in the Hampton School Latin Vocab Competition. In Maths, we took Golds for the first time in three years within the Primary Maths Challenge (Andrew, Hanlin and Prabodha) as well as 7 Silver and 3 Bronze. I've not had time to tot up the final picture of our senior school results yet this year, but I can see offers from Eton, King's College, Hampton, Dulwich College, Reed's, Westminster, Epsom College, Trinity and Whitgift and around 18 grammar places with scholarships currently running at 12 with more news still to come. You get the picture of some remarkable achievements that we will celebrate in time.

On staffing, Mr Fitzgerald has been promoted to Head of St Andrews in Woking from September. A great result for his young family. I'm delighted to announce that Mr Siva, our current Head of Maths and Head of Year 6, will be stepping up as Deputy Head Pastoral.

Thanks to all who supported our collection for Sutton Food Bank, helping those less fortunate: better than helping ourselves to too many toilet rolls!

Finally, some much needed levity, and given Mother's Day, a lovely idea from Sami (Year 6) for the perfect 'husband-bot', his entry for a STEAM competition... Dads, time to raise the bar? See page 7 for a much-needed smile in these hard times for us all.

Take care and be safe over Easter.

John Towers
Headmaster

Pre-Prep

All our boys in the Pre-Prep seem to be maturing so much as the days go by and we can see them mentally and physically growing. They have been especially mature during this unnerving time with the coronavirus and have been asking us some very grown up questions. It will be very strange for the boys and for the staff not to be interacting in the same way as we would do normally but we must do whatever we can to keep everyone safe.

This week, the boys have been recapping our previously learnt sounds in Literacy and enjoying exploring those again, gaining more understanding of the words we find them in.

Junior Department

3H led our assembly last week and the topic was Resilience. It was a great subject for all the boys to consider and there were lots of helpful points for everyone – thank you 3H. This week, it was the turn of 3S who did a fantastic assembly about International Day. We were amazed how many languages the boys can speak. The assembly ended with us all learning how to count in Gaelic – thank you Mrs Connaughton!

Rick and Nick from Sutton Schoolswork visited us on Monday and their assembly centred around 'Don't judge a book by its cover'. Lots of boys took part and we all enjoyed learning a catchy song.

Year 2 participated in the St Christopher's School Music Festival last week. The Homefield boys were fantastic and we were so proud of them all. After the concert we were all treated to a wonderful lunch at St Christopher's School and all the children had a playtime together.

This week, Year 1 boys have also been outside in the school grounds during Science, checking closely on the tree that they observe throughout the year looking for seasonal changes. They also have been testing wind machines which they have been busy constructing.

We can see how the information they are retaining as their reading has improved so much and they are now reading far more complex words with the help of their phonic knowledge. In Maths, we have been focussing on counting in 10s and number bonds to 5 and 10. The boys have been trying hard to mentally work out which number comes next without using their fingers.

We have also taken the opportunity over the last two weeks to emphasise the importance of healthy eating, hand washing with soap and water for 20 seconds and being a 'Sneezy Superhero'.

Music in Year 2

St Christopher's Music Festival Thursday 12th March



Last week, Year 2 boys took part in the St Christopher's Music Festival along with eight other local schools.

The massed choirs gave rousing renditions of *Can You Hear Me* and *Give Us Hope* but the boys really excelled in their solo performance of two songs. They expertly delivered a two-part arrangement of *La Terre Chante Les Couleurs* (all in French) and their diction in *When We Grow Up* was superb. This was all topped off with enthusiastic actions and very spirited in-tune singing. Well done to all.

Our Students of the Week are:

Jaydon in Tigers for having increased enthusiasm in all areas.

Theo in Monkeys for always trying so hard and making an effort when completing his work.

Homefield Heroes

1H Zachariah for always working hard and taking care with his work and **Xand** for being a kind and helpful member of 1H.

1S Arjun for his great enthusiasm for everything and for super presentation of all his work and **Aidan** for his lovely reading and for showing great enjoyment of the books he reads.

2H Kamran for a fantastic and enthusiastic performance at St Christopher's Music Festival and **Benjamin** for being so considerate and caring towards others.

2S Max for impeccable manners on our trip to St Christopher's Music Festival and **Zareef** for being a fantastic partner who shares and listens.

3H Saaketh and **Arthav** for showing an excellent attitude and splendid progress.

3S Noah for a thoughtful response to the philosophical question, 'can you be brave without first feeling afraid?' and **Lewis** for singing out confidently and with enthusiasm in our Disney music lesson.

First Year boys with their wind machines, ready for a blustery day!



Theology, Philosophy and Religion

Philosophers of the Week

Zach 4P

What makes a 'good decision'?

Zain 4P

Is there always a 'right answer'?

Cass 6H

Do we always need to be brave?

Carter 6H

Do you have to be scared to be brave?



'TPR time: Year 8 boys deep in a philosophical discussion using the 4 C's: Caring, Collaborative, Creative and Critical thinking skills.'



Reece 5H

Classics

Latin Vocabulary Quiz – Hampton School

On Tuesday 10th March, four pupils from Year 8 (Benjamin H, Vinicius G, Keshav R and Anuj S) travelled to Hampton School to participate in a Latin Vocabulary Quiz. When we arrived at Hampton School, we were treated to a filling lunch, and then walked towards the Hammond Theatre where the competition was set to take place. There were 5 other schools each with teams of 4 pupils present on the stage. We were directed to our table where we would be seated for the rest of the quiz.

There were three rounds which took place, each one giving opportunities to earn points for your team. In total, we achieved a proud score of 13 points, only getting one question wrong in the final round. Unfortunately, one school managed to sneak out ahead of us by only one point therefore putting us in the final position of second place in this thrilling contest.

Overall, this visit to Hampton School was very informative for me and my companions, as we were able to get to know key information about Hampton School but also we learnt an important lesson: to press the buzzer (in round two) as quickly as possible to try and have an opportunity to gain points! My team revised in-depth vocabulary for this competition and it had seemed to pay-off while answering the given questions. Finally, I, as captain of this strong team, would like to say that my partners performed very well under pressure and answered questions with confidence therefore making this quiz an extremely enjoyable experience for all of us, including Mr McCaffery!

Anuj S, Year 8H - Team Captain

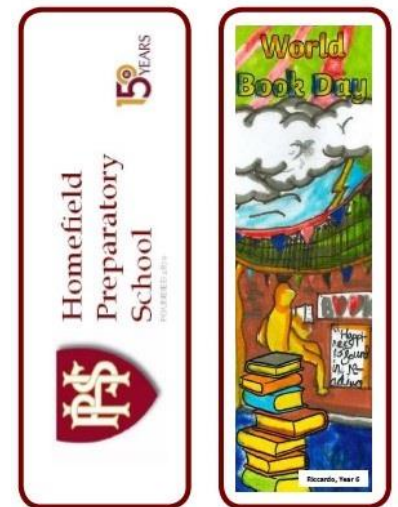
Parents' Association

Managing the next few weeks may seem daunting for many parents, especially if families find themselves self-isolating. We hope that as a school community we can help each other, whether it is in buying groceries or in sharing useful links for learning and activities. Classlist is a great platform to communicate with other parents - let's use it to support each other during these difficult and uncertain times.



World Book Day

A fantastic well done to Riccardo in Year 6 who designed this fabulous bookmark for World Book Day. The bookmark will now be printed to celebrate the Schools 150th Anniversary.



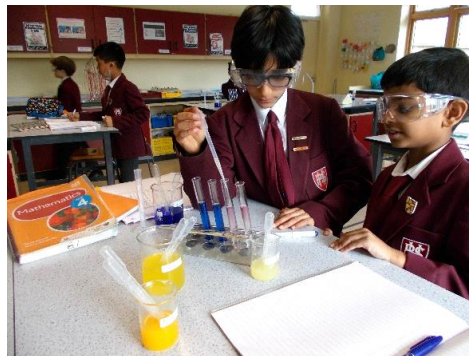
Shelfie Winners:

Thanks to everyone who entered the Shelfie competition the results are:

1 st prize	Benjamin K
2 nd prize	Harry N
Staff prize	Mr Powell

Science News

This week, Year 4 have been testing different drinks to see which contain the most vitamin C. They tested freshly squeezed orange juice and lemon juice, as well as orange squash and carton orange juice. They added drops of each drink to DCPIP solution, which is a bright blue colour. Vitamin C decolourises DCPIP so is an indicator of the amount of vitamin C present. It was found that freshly squeezed orange juice was the clear winner, containing the most vitamin C. Vitamin C helps our immune systems so we recommend that you all drink fresh orange juice to help stay well!



Learning Technologies



Some of our boys spend a considerable amount of time on social media. This is an accepted part of 21st Century life and young people need to learn how to use it responsibly and safely. With this in mind, the BBC's 'Own It' app, which can be downloaded from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store, appeals to young people as it is not a parental monitoring app, but helps them to develop positive behaviours online. The 'Own It' app is part of the BBC's commitment to supporting young people in today's changing digital environment. It provides a helping hand when they receive their first smartphone, supporting their digital well-being, showing them how to make

smarter and better informed choices and helping them grow into confident, positive and happy digital citizens.

Using a combination of self-reporting and 'machine learning', the app builds up a picture of young people's digital well-being and serves relevant content, information and interventions designed to help understand the impact that their online behaviours can have on themselves, and on others. In addition, the app presents a range of content and features designed to help young people get the most from their time online and helps them to develop healthy online habits and behaviours. Most importantly, the app will encourage young people to have open, honest and regular conversations with their parents about their online experiences if they are feeling sad or worried.

For more information follow this link: <https://www.bbc.com/ownit/about-us/own-it-app-faqs>.

Primary Maths Challenge

The awaited results of the PMC bonus round are in. A quick recap: this was an invitation only round for those Year 5 and 6 boys that had scored highly in the first round. 14 boys went through with 13 achieving medals. Those eagle-eyed amongst you (and not put off by tables!) would have noticed that the two Year 5 boys who made it through to the bonus round also gained the top award.

	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Year 5	-	-	2
Year 6	3	7	1

Well done to Hanlin M and Andrew Y, who join the perennial medallist Prabodha A in achieving gold medals.

Townsend Warner Prize



The Townsend-Warner History Prize

THE PREPARATORY SCHOOLS PRIZE ESTABLISHED IN 1885

Results from the Townsend Warner Prize Round 2 are in and our Homefield Historians have done exceptionally well this year. After a 1 hour long, 100 question quiz (Round 1), 5 boys scored high enough to qualify for Round 2 (2 hours: 4 essays) being amongst the top 250 candidates in the country.

Out of the 1036 students from 81 schools who initially entered, we have placed very well and won prizes! Well done boys - fantastic hard work, memory and thirst for knowledge!

Ranking:

1. Vinicius 35th - certificate and book voucher
2. Qasim 36th - certificate and book voucher
3. Kwame 84th - highly commended
4. Vansh 102nd
5. Samuel B 106th



These three boys have also been placed in the top 9% nationally – a sterling effort!

Massive congratulations to those who participated in the bonus round. Making it this far is no small feat. Medals and certificates will be handed out in assembly.

Sports News

Year 4 Hockey Fixture

On Thursday 12th March, Year 4 played a hockey fixture at Goals Sutton against Hawthorns School. The 'D' team were victorious, securing a 7-1 win with goals from Adharsh, Jeyavel, Shiven, Siddharth and Lucas (3). Jeyavel, Captain for the match, was the standout performer on the pitch. Siddharth and Lucas also defended very well with some important tackles and interceptions. The 'C' team match was a heavy defeat for Homefield against a very strong Hawthorns 'C' team. Rayhaan scored Homefield's only goal in a 16-1 loss. There was an extremely even match on the 'B' team pitch - Vir and Captain Oscar both scored two goals each in a thrilling 4-4 draw in which Kavin showed good ball control in attack. The 'A' team match was also very close and the lead changed hands several times. The final score was 6-4 to Hawthorns but it was so nearly a draw as Homefield applied lots of pressure at 5-4 before Hawthorns scored on the counter attack in the final seconds. As well as an own goal, Homefield's goal scorers were Jake, Kailan and Raece, while Owen tackled well in defence and Noah, Ismail and Tosin were a strong presence in midfield. Ultimately, the difference was Hawthorns were able to play to the right hand side more effectively than Homefield in the second half after Homefield had gone 3-2 up. Well done to the 33 boys who represented the school so well in this fixture!



U13 Hockey Fixtures

Our U13 boys have enjoyed two hockey fixtures against Kingswood House this half term. Our 1st - 4th teams each played one match at home and one match away over the two days of 2nd and 9th March and it was brilliant that every boy in Year 7 and 8 represented the school in a hockey fixture.

On 2nd March, our 1st and 2nd teams played at Kingswood House. For the 2nd team, Tosan scored an excellent first half hat trick before playing valiantly in goal for the second half. Homefield's other goal scorers were Niraj (2) and Kwame in a 6-1 win. The 1st team also enjoyed a five goal winning margin after goals from Tom (3), Yasir, Tosan, Hugo and Sam S, secured a 7-2 victory. It was great to see the boys moving the ball forwards quickly and being clinical in front of goal. At Sutton Goals, the 3rd and 4th teams played their Kingswood House Counterparts. The 3rd team match was a closely contested 2-1 win for Homefield with Barnaby and Samuel the goal scorers. On the 4th team pitch, goals were scored by Justin L (2), Nicolas, Sebastian and Anthony in a 5-1 win.

On 9th March, it was the return leg - the 3rd and 4th teams were away at Kingswood House with the 1st and 2nd teams at Sutton Goals. An outstanding performance in goal by George for the 3rd team kept the score line down and ensured the match ended in a narrow 2-1 win for Kingswood House - Samuel B the scorer for Homefield as Barnaby and Sami were typically tenacious. The 4th team found goals easier to come by and scored five through Anthony, Keshav, Lorcan, Nicolas and Sebastian. However, they were up against an improved Kingswood House team who scored six goals of their own to win 6-5 despite a brilliant performance by Zohaib in goal. At Sutton Goals, the 2nd team match was an extremely well-matched contest, both teams scoring four goals in a thrilling draw. All of Homefield's goals were scored by Ashton who had a real eye for goal!

Jaineel was a solid tackler and Kwame organised his teammates well. On the 1st team pitch, an 8-1 win was secured with goals from Tom, Yasir, Sam S, Tosan, Felix (3) and an own goal as Homefield played extremely well, attacking the right hand side and creating space in attack. Harry made an outstanding one-handed save and some of the passing and assists were superb, notably Ollie and Felix combining to set up Tom before he returned the favour and put Felix through. It was also great to see Homefield score from one of the many short corners they won when Sam controlled, beat a defender and then played a brilliant reverse stick pass for Tosan to hit in at the back post. Vinicius was a standout performer in defence, marking and tackling extremely well. Well done to all boys for their efforts in these two fixtures!



Judo

Following on from last Friday's judo demonstration in assembly, should your son wish to join Judo club, starting with a FREE no obligation trial lesson, please contact Josie Horton on 07889869859 or hortonjo@googlemail.com.

Lessons are held after school on Wednesday for all year groups starting in Reception.

Fantasy Football League

Games Week 28

League	Most Points	Team	Manager
Pupils, Parents & Staff	55	The Liver Griffins	Dhruv
Year 7 & 8	43	Out Of This World!	Sam
Year 6	34	Liverpool Champions	David
Year 5	46	Harper's Harps	Luke
Year 4	55	The Liver Griffins	Dhruv
Junior	48	The Pog Show	Nathan
	48	Alexander The Great!	Alexander
Parents	54	Noice	Chris S
Staff	38	Ole Gunnar Get Ya	Mr Hawkins
Alumni	32	The Stadium Raiders	James

Games Week 29

League	Most Points	Team	Manager
Pupils, Parents & Staff	84	Boom Chicka Pow Pow	Mr Powell
Year 7 & 8	79	George's Gobsmackers	George
Year 6	65	The Purrfect Legends	Raamin
Year 5	72	Harper's Harps	Luke
Year 4	79	Legends11	Iliham
Junior	83	Olivier's Army	Olivier
Parents	72	Beaten By A Girl	Lizby S
Staff	84	Boom Chicka Pow Pow	Mr Powell
Alumni	51	The Stadium Raiders	James
	51	MSN Be Back Again	Ismail

Chess

A squad of 13 players competed in the National Primary Schools Team Chess Championships Under 11 section on Saturday 7th March, at Twickenham Prep School. A team of 6 has qualified for the semi-final. Well done to every member of the squad for all the contributions.

'A' team

1. Prabodha
2. Nishad
3. Krish
4. Gajan
5. Raghav
6. Arjun

'B' team

1. Leonardo
2. Andrew
3. Parth
4. Amaresh
5. Ewan
6. Arjun
7. Zayn

Thanks for all the parental support without which these boys could not have played.

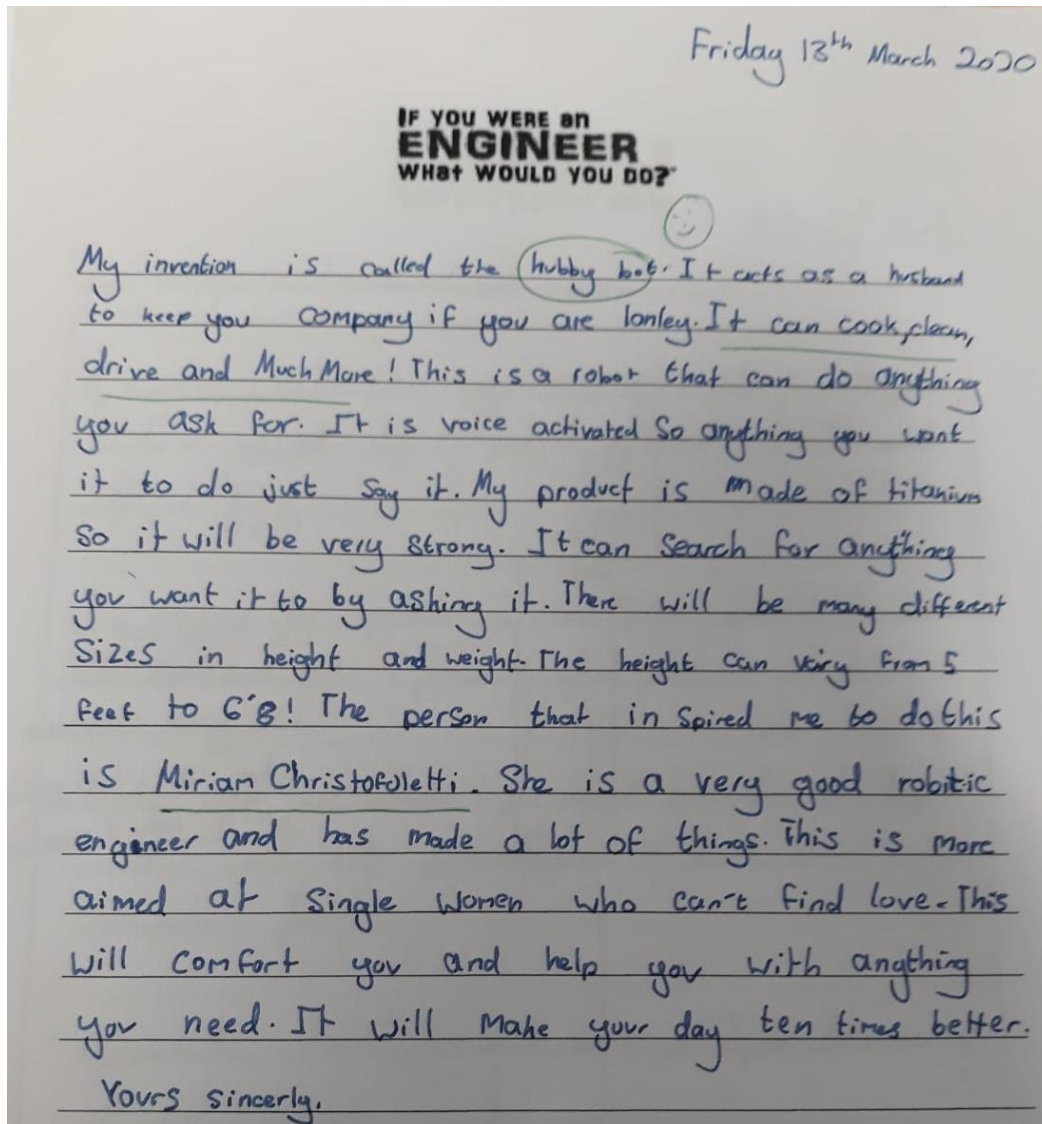


Homefield Art Gallery



Luke, Year 3 - Busy City in the Sunset

And something to make you all smile ... from Sami in 6S



Tweet of the Week



Keep abreast with Homefield

news as it happens...   