

Headlines

Autumn Term

23rd November 2018



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

ISI inspection report

Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents

It's one of those weeks where some trumpet blowing is in order and I'm not talking about our brass section, I mean in terms of celebrating success:

Up front, many of our staff were delighted to go and watch Anush (Year 8) performing in the West End musical, 'Motown'. A couple of years ago I remarked that Anush was like a young Michael Jackson and here he is, amongst other things, playing a young Michael Jackson in a London musical. Awesome!

Last year, the Science Department moved to a notable victory in the National Inter-School Quiz Championship. This year, we again dominated the regional heats with 1st and 3rd placements. Our first place team now move onto the semi-final stage.

There is simply not enough space for me to talk about attainment in Maths and our ascendancy in the National Primary Maths Challenge.

We had to go to extra time in Assembly simply to get through the awards. Please refer to Mr Siva's article and, in the true tradition of Maths, the results table.

An important point here: most of the above is wrapped up in a whole lot of fun and enjoyment. We want our boys to see challenge in a positive light and to develop a mind-set to see such as an opportunity to shine. The other take-away: the importance of teams and looking after each other within a shared mission, whatever that may be.

Have a good weekend.

John Towers
Headmaster

Events for next week

Thursday:

Year 8 Parents' Evening 4.30 – 7.00pm

Friday:

HA Coffee Morning & 2nd hand uniform sale 8.30 – 10.00am

Year 8 West Side Story @ Christ's Hospital School Theatre; departing at 12.30pm for a 2pm show, returning to Homefield by 6.00pm

Future dates for your diary:

6th December:

EYD Christmas Play 2.30pm

7th December:

Chamber Choir @ St Nicholas Centre
HA Christmas Fair

12th December:

Junior Department Concert 2.30pm
Senior Department Concert 6.30pm



Early Years Department

Early Years boys have been learning about 'Police' this week. They have enjoyed police stories, hot seating, painting police cars on the interactive whiteboard, writing 'wanted' posters, dressing up as a policeman and printing with their fingers to see what a fingerprint looks like.

With the weather this week turning as cold as it has, please can we remind you of the importance of boys arriving at school with regulation hats, scarves, gloves and regulation blue coats.

Junior Department

As part of Road Safety Week, 2S led a great assembly giving us all lots of helpful tips about keeping safe when we are out and about. They told us all about zebra crossings, pelican crossings and how to cross a busy road. We learnt about wearing fluorescent clothing and stripes so that we can easily be seen in the winter months. Thank you 2S!

The boys are rising to the challenge of walking to school once a week –WOW! Thank you for parking and striding as a way of supporting the boys with this.

In our PHSE lessons, the Year 1 and 2 boys have joined with Years 5 and 6 respectively to have a 'making new friends' session. It has been very successful and the Senior boys have been kind and welcoming to the Juniors.

Rick from 'Sutton Schoolwork' visited us this week and the topic of his assembly was 'small things make a difference'. This is very evident in the weekly Guide Dog donations as our current amount is nearly at £1000!

In other exciting news, Mrs Fletcher safely delivered a beautiful baby boy on his due date (20th November). He weighed in at a healthy 6lbs 15oz and is called Zephaniah Stephen Fletcher. We are all very excited in EYD and cannot wait to meet him!

Environmental Art Club

'Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.'
(Benjamin Franklin)

This week in Environmental Art Club, boys had the opportunity to develop their fine motor skills by turning a lump of Plasticine into a delicate rose, one petal at a time. With patience and determination, they successfully managed to overcome their mental barriers and create something amazing. Well done!



Mathematics News

Primary Maths Challenge

Another year, another Primary Maths Challenge (PMC), so the boys and staff thought! This time the ante was upped with more difficult (and quirkier!) questions than in previous years. The boys did not shirk away from the challenge with nearly half of those who entered (59 boys) achieving either a bronze, silver or gold award.

What was rather impressive, primarily as the PMC is geared towards Years 5 and 6, were the Year 4 boys and their performances on this more difficult paper.

Their performances were impressive across the board with 6 awards being picked up, including one silver!

Our Special Award this week goes to:

Adam in Elephants for trying really hard to think of words beginning with our sound of the week.

Our Students of the Week are:

Shivansh in Tigers for making good choices and working so hard.

Dyllon in Monkeys for his excellent effort in phonics.

Homefield Heroes

1H Aurin for presenting his work so beautifully. Well done, Aurin!

1S Max for making a fantastic effort with reading and learning his sounds. Well done, Max!

2H Rohan for much improved effort with his handwriting and spelling. Well done!

2S Sheldon for fabulous writing for a History activity.

3H Owen for his kindness and demonstrating empathy for others.

3H Krish for making good and helpful contributions in class.

3S Kaito for his creative approach to learning.

Year	Bronze	Silver	Gold
4	5	1	
5	15	2	2
6	15	14	5

Parents' Association

HA Christmas Dates:

Christmas Coffee Morning

Friday 30th November 8.30am

Christmas Fair

Friday 7th December 3.45pm- 5.45pm

Please join us on Friday for coffee, cake and present wrapping!

At our Coffee Morning on Friday we will be getting ready for the Christmas Fair. Please bring all your **donations** of new pocket toys for the Lucky Dip and new gifts for the Secret Gift room to school **by Friday**. The boys love the opportunity to choose a present for their mum or dad at the Christmas Fair, and suggestions of the type of gifts to donate have been sent out on Classlist. Thanks in advance for your kind donations.

Sport

House Sport Competitions

On Friday lunchtimes this term, Mr Smith has organised competitions in six sports for boys in Year 7 and 8 to take part in. Competing in their House teams, boys participated in badminton, table tennis, basketball, handball, dodgeball and volleyball. Ellis made a strong start by winning the House Badminton in week one, but from then on it was Walfords who won every other event, leaving Bomfords, Grays and Ellis to fight for the remaining three places. In the end, only one point separated Grays and Ellis - here is the final overall league table using the results from all six sports:

- 1st - Walfords
- 2nd - Ellis
- 3rd - Grays
- 4th - Bomfords

Year 6 will now get the opportunity to compete in House Competitions, starting with badminton this Friday. Well done to all Year 7 and 8 boys who took part, and good luck to Year 6!

Thanks also to everyone who has signed up to help at the Christmas Fair. We are still looking for **volunteers** so if you are able to help on a stall, please contact your Class Rep.

There are lots of fun activities planned, including Christmas games and crafts, Santa's Grotto, the Lucky Dip, the Secret Gift Room and the Jam Jar stall. We hope the boys in Early Years and Juniors enjoy joining in the preparations by filling and decorating **jam jars** to sell!

Finally, don't forget to sell your **raffle tickets** for a chance to win a Lego Ninjago Destiny's Bounty or £100 Amazon vouchers! If you're not in it, you can't win it!



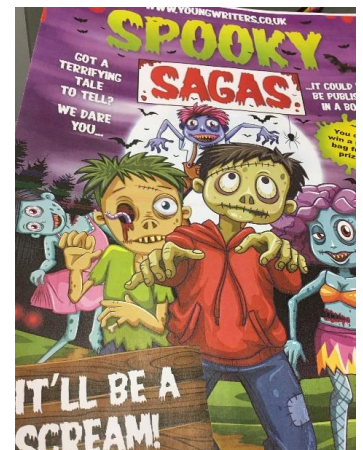
Science Competition

This week, two Homefield teams attended the Inter-Schools Science Quiz Championships held at Hoe Bridge School, Woking, and we came a very respectable 3rd and 1st place. The winning team of Barnaby F, Oliver B, Adam L and Samuel B qualify for the semi-finals next week. The other team of Harry N, Felix P, Oliver T and Idhant L were also a credit to the school, being narrowly beaten into 3rd place by just 10 points. Well done, boys!



LRC Update

Can you write a 'Spooky Tale' in 100 words, if you think you can, pop to the LRC and enter the new competition that is open for Years 3-6. You have a chance to be published in a book!



The last day to borrow an LRC book this term is Friday 30th November and all books should be returned by the 7th December. There will be a prize for the class who return all their LRC books!

Back in January, the school donated a staggering 2250 books to a charity called 'Delight in Reading', who have just sent us their Annual Report and Homefield is mentioned as one of the major contributors. So well done again, boys!



Homefield Art Gallery

Tim S, 4S - Confused Colour Portrait



Music

St Mary's, Merton - Chorister Opportunities

At St Mary's, the top line in the Choir is sung by boy and girl choristers (aged 7+) from Merton Park and all over South London. They sing at weekly choral services in the church and receive generous benefits including a free musical education from the specialist staff team (including vocal and music theory coaching), heavily subsidised private instrumental and theory tuition, and trips around the UK and abroad. The Choir is hosting an Open Evening on Friday 14th December - for more information, please visit:

www.stmarysmertonchoir.com

Administrative Matters

A reminder to parents that boys' absences each day should be reported to the Absence Line (by phone or email) by 8.45am. Many thanks.

Tweet of the Week



Homefield Prep School @HomefieldSchool · Nov 21

What an amazing superstar Anush in #Year8 is! Last night we travelled to the West End to watch him on stage in @MotownMusical. We were all blown away by his absolutely brilliant performance #Proud #MichaelJackson



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Good News

If you have any good news that you would like to share about your son, that you think others in the Homefield community would be pleased to hear about, then please do drop an email, with a photograph to: goodnews@homefieldprep.school

We will aim to share as much as possible on social media to celebrate the successes of our talented boys.

Social Media

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

