

Headlines

Autumn Term
23rd September 2022



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

ISI inspection report December 2021

Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents

Thanks for your patience over the last week. As the builders finish the new sports pitch surface we’ve been dismissing boys from the forecourt. We will soon enjoy the luxury of expansive space to the rear of the estate. Likewise, as we re-launched ‘stop and drop’ you have been most considerate. We can see some queuing in the morning so please do tuck in where you can to allow other vehicles to pass on the carriage way. Let’s take care of our locality.

We have enjoyed a place within the community for over 150 years. Bob Last was a designer, artist and Vice-President of the Pastel Society. He lived across the road and is remembered for hand painting the first ‘Homefield School’ sign on our current site back in the 1960s. The old sign is long gone, but his legacy lives on with his art displayed in the School. He passed recently and his daughters launched an appeal to help Cancer Research. Do please join me in supporting this good cause:

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/in-memory-of-bob-last?fbclid=IwAR0D4aFZXiEkaMgY6LbCaK1EGGPxLL4N8pFjHFfaWfGYFZBWjts15f2mq2Y>

We have championed art and design for many decades. It provides such a joy for the boys and recent investments (such as the laser 3D printer donated by the Parents’ & Friends’ Association) has kept the curriculum vibrant. Graham Sutherland, one of Britain’s finest early 20th Century impressionists, first found his fine art mojo as a student at Homefield back in the 1910s.

So, inspired by art professionals, it’s now time for our own boys to shine. You may have noticed the large double height wall in the new entrance foyer. We have left it unadorned with purpose, for on Monday we launch a House Art competition for the seniors. We are looking for boys to create their own House crest for 2022. It will be based on heraldic design. The four winners, one from each House, will have their final design enlarged and mounted to make a new permanent display in the Foyer. A colour pop of creativity to hijack the attention of anyone walking into the School. A call to arms to emphasise our commitment to the arts. Mr Leung, our Head of Art and Design, will brief on details from Monday... but do please encourage your boys to start sketching out ideas.

Congratulations are extended to Andrew who takes on the role of Head Boy for the Autumn Term.



Dr Yuan, Andrew and Mr Towers

Finally, thanks for the very big turn out to both our parent seminars on ‘managing boys’ behaviour’ and to my annual round up on all things senior transfer this week.

Have a great weekend.

John Towers
Headmaster

Lower School: Reception, Years 1 and 2

Reception

In Reception this week, we have started our new text, 'The Rainbow Fish'. We have retold the story with a particular focus on using the vocabulary in the text such as 'shimmering', 'shiny', 'lonely' and 'wise'. We talked about our favourite part of the story and why. Bernardo said, "I liked the part when the blue fish asked for a shiny scale. He wanted to be friends." Ariz in RH said, "My favourite part was when he shared his shiny scales." As a class we discussed different ways in which we could share to be just like the Rainbow Fish. In Maths, continuing our focus on counting, recognising and writing numbers to 20. It was a good challenge to count objects that we couldn't move, using our pencils to mark off the scale we had counted. During Enrichment this week, we enjoyed having time on the range of bikes and scooters in the playground. It required lots of teamwork, sharing and negotiation. We also had to carefully weave in and out of one another to avoid a crash!



Year 1

In Year 1, we have continued our Maths topic of place value. This week, we looked at partitioning numbers (sometimes using resources) and then used the vocabulary of 'greater than', 'less than' or 'equals to' comparing numbers. In English, we have continued with the Colour Monster and the boys wrote about a colour they have felt and the emotions and feelings they experienced at that time. In our History topic, we have been learning about Henry VIII. We took it in turns to 'hot seat' Henry VIII by asking him probing questions! In our Science topic, the boys enjoyed looking back at their baby photos and making comparisons between themselves then and now. They managed to find lots of things that are different but also things that are the same.

Year 2

In English this week, we have been using expanded noun phrases to create poetry related to 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. Louie used the noun phrase, "Chewed up, stubby pencil." Iraan wrote, "A glistening, rainbow pencil." In Maths, Year 2 have been learning how to compare and sequence number in a range of orders. In Science, we imagined we were stranded on a desert island and discussed the basic needs that are crucial for survival: ask your son what he would pack to survive! Aaron in 2S said he would pack "Some wood for making a fire, maybe some sticks so I could make a symbol for help, water, some sandwiches and a towel to keep me dry." In Geography and History, we've continued our work on rainforests and looked at the life of explorer Matthew Henson.

Charitable Endeavour

Akesh in 5H recently took part in a 5k sponsored charity walk for Serendip Children's Home. Akesh and his mother collected £450 in sponsorship donations for the charity.

Jeans for Genes Day

Many thanks to all parents for your generous donations amounting to £285.00 for today's charitable initiative.



Homefield Heroes

RH – Bertie for making a new member of our class feel welcome and Freddie for hard work in phonics this week.

RS – Laurie for consistently making the right choices and being so sensible in and out of the classroom and Ethan for polite and considerate behaviour.

1H - Logan for fantastic reasoning and explanations in Maths and Charlie for outstanding contributions to History lessons.

1S – Philip E for fantastic reasoning and explanations in Maths and Aarib for his beautifully written English work this week.

2H- Mikael for always working hard and being a helpful friend in the classroom and Rahul for always listening well to instructions.

2S - Mirsub for continued effort and enthusiasm in his Maths work and Rohan for an incredible observational drawing of an apple in Art.

Photographs

Boys throughout the school will be having individual and sibling photos taken by our visiting professional photographers on Monday.

Please ensure that your young man arrives at school looking his photogenic best!



Pastoral

Homefield Heroes

The following boys receive a special mention:

Years 3 and 4

Last week, our Homefield Heroes were Yusuf, Raymin and Yahya in Year 3 and Aran, Antoine, and Faiz in Year 4. These boys have shown a fantastic attitude to learning by making great contributions to class discussions.

A very warm welcome to Ethan who joined 3S this week: he has already shown some remarkable skills during Tuesday's football fixture!

Congratulations to the 18 boys who were voted by their classmates as Form Captains, Vice Captains or School Council representatives this term.

Finally, a special mention to Yusuf in Year 4 for his excellent participation in choir, and Aaron in Year 4 for commitment and lots of support of others in Allegro orchestra and Year 3 and 4 choir. Well done, boys.

Years 5 and 6

The following boys are to be congratulated on having been nominated as Homefield Heroes:

For demonstrating our key values of respect and independence:

Thomas X and Akesh (5H), Spandan and Hamza (5P), Zachary and Alex H (5S), Rohan K and Lachlan (6H), Alex Z, Aadit and Deep (6P), Alex M and Bryan (6S).

Sport

Year 3 Football

On Tuesday 20th September, the Year 3 boys all played in their very first football fixture for the school against Chinthurst. It was a fantastic afternoon of football. The Red team conceded a penalty in the first five minutes and went one goal down. However, they struck back quickly with a goal from James and shortly after a great shot from Ted put them in the lead. An own goal meant HPS led 3-1 at half time. In the second half, Homefield dominated possession and goals from Hussain and a wonder strike from Jai led to victory. Chinthurst managed a consolation goal and the score

Responsibilities

Congratulations to the following boys in Years 5 and 6 who will be taking on roles of responsibility this term:

Form Captains: Thomas X (5H), Constantine (5P), Eric (5S), Harry (6H), Finn (6P) and Luke (6S).

Vice-Captains: Enming (5H), Spandan (5P), Ezel (5S), Damon (6H), Jonathan F (6P) and Rohan B (6S).

School Council: Kamran (5H), Jerry (5P), Brendan (5S), William (6H), Kane (6P) and Abdulaziz (6S).

Year 6 Librarians: Ethan (6H), Vihaan (6H), Isaiah (6P), Alexander H (6P), Charlie (6S) and Abdullah (6S).

Year 6 Technology Champions: Rohan K (6H), Nashwan I (6H), Jamie (6P), Arjun (6P), Masood (6S) and Alex M (6S).

Years 7 and 8

Congratulations to the following boys, nominated as Homefield Heroes:

Rayhaan in Year 7 for good work in STEAM, Science and History, gaining 7 house points and Adam for his positive attitude in lessons, especially STEAM and Sports.

Boris in Year 8 for his commitment in all subjects and his willingness to help in Form Time and Henry P for excellent work in Latin and positive attitude during his visit to Bletchley Park.

ended HPS 5 Chinthurst 2.

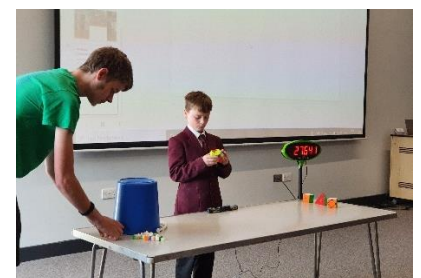
The Blue team had a great game that was evenly matched. Oliver made two super saves in goal and Axel had a shot cleared off the line. Finnlay and Gianluca combined to set up Yusuf but he shot just wide. The score ended 0-0.

The Yellow team started brightly and controlled large parts of the game. Ved was excellent at finding space and Jaydon, Alex and Isaac made some strong runs with the ball. Alex scored two well worked goals and Isaac scored from a nice pass from Misha. Jaydon scored a good goal and the game ended 4-2 to Homefield.

Speedcubing Assembly

On Tuesday 20th September, Daniel from www.speedcubing.org led an assembly to Years 4, 5 and 6. There are many keen cubers at Homefield Prep so the boys were very excited. Daniel competed in the 7x7x7 category at the European Speedcubing Championships this summer and he wowed the boys by solving some 3x3x3 cubes (scrambled by some of our boys) in 11 seconds and under! Then, Daniel talked through the strategy required to solve any 3x3x3 cube and demonstrated using a giant cube so that all boys could clearly see the steps involved. Lastly, Lucas in Year 6 came to the front and solved a 3x3x3 cube in 1 minute 5 seconds using the official timer.

If your son is inspired to buy a new cube or get into cubing, Daniel's online shop can be found on his website www.speedcubing.org where there are many different types of cube (including fruit-shaped ones!) as well as tutorials of how to solve a cube using his step-by-step guide. A huge well done to Lucas and thank you to Daniel for his excellent demonstrations and explanations of speedcubing.



Music

Congratulations to Adam in 5H who recently passed his music theory test Grade 5 with distinction.

Sport / continued

The Green team played out a wonderful match with every boy giving their best effort. Raymin was full of energy and scored two super goals. Henry played very well in goal and made two superb saves. Ethan also scored a lovely goal having just hit the post. The score ended 3-0 to Homefield.

Year 4 Football Fixture

On Thursday 15th September, Year 4 played their first football fixture of the year, travelling to Aberdour with three teams. Aberdour's strong, technical players resulted in a 6-1 loss for our Red team (captain Elijah scoring our goal) and an 8-0 loss for our Yellow team.

However, our Orange team secured a 2-0 win with some excellent pressing and two goals by Player of the Match, Easan. Haren, Kaloyan and Eric were the other impressive players on the day. Year 4 are now looking forward to their next fixture against Cumnor House.

Keep abreast with Homefield news as it happens ...



Tweet of the Week

You Retweeted



Homefield Prep Sport @HomefieldSpOrt · Sep 17

Great morning of football at the annual @SHSBoysPrep U11 tournament where our boys made it to the quarter finals. Well played! 🏆☀️ #HPSfixtures



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Homefield Art Gallery



Ethan C, Year 4
Monochrome Flower

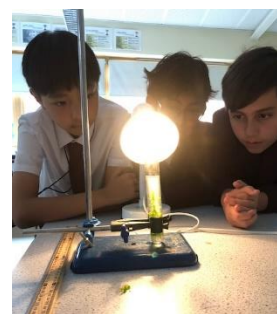
Science

The boys have had a great start to the school year in science by getting stuck into lots of fun and interesting practical investigations.

Year 6 have started their mixtures and compounds unit by carrying out some work with solutions and finding out which solutes can and cannot dissolve in certain solvents.

Year 7 have been using their microscopy skills to look at their cheek cells and onion skin cells.

Year 8 have enjoyed practical work as part of their photosynthesis topic; they have tested leaves for the presence of starch and investigated how light affects starch production by plants, and they have looked at the effect of light intensity on photosynthesis in pondweed. It is lovely to see the boys so engaged in their science work; there are certainly lots of budding young scientists at Homefield Prep!



Year 8 investigating pondweed



Year 7 microscopic evaluation



Year 6 solutions