

# Headlines

Autumn Term  
24th September 2021

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

ISI inspection report

## Letter from the Headmaster

### Dear Parents

We have been reviewing how we share the boys' progress and next steps with you. As the world of education changes (in terms of metrics and reporting from Early Years up to GCSE) we need to be responsive to that. We also need to consider the rich data we've collected on pupil and parent voice over the last few years.

Our objective is to be more consistent across the school and to provide a more useful set of measures that parents can understand. We want to change timings of parent consultations to allow more time for you to talk with teachers about school reports. Furthermore, we want to tie reporting more closely to our teachers' planning and to share some key targets that parents can support with. We also want to listen to the boys and what they find most constructive.

So, from Year 1 upwards (Reception, with very different curriculum and timetable, will keep with the current reporting format) parents will:

**Receive a termly report.** This report will include a summative judgement on where our staff judge the boys are, compared to national age related expectations of attainment. All subjects will be covered and pertinent key targets will be shared. Reports will come home at the end of Autumn and Spring Terms.

A further report will come home during the second half of the Summer Term and this will also include more detail, a review of targets and next steps on academic and pastoral matters.

To complement this we are adapting parent evenings to better fit with reporting:

- In the first half of the Autumn Term a **Parents Information Evening** will set the tone for curriculum study and organisation for the academic year.
- In the second half of the Autumn Term a **Parents Day/Evening** will provide opportunity for 1:1 consultations with academic staff.
- In the first half of the Spring Term a **Pastoral Day/Evening** will provide opportunity for 1:1 consultations with Form Tutors on pastoral matters.
- In the second half of the Summer Term a **Parents Day/Evening** will provide another opportunity for 1:1 consultations. You will have your Summer Term report in hand before this meeting so teachers can share further insights into it.

As ever, we will maintain an open door policy with our teachers, who are available to help you throughout the year with specific queries.

We feel confident that our changes here will better fulfil the core purpose of reporting – to tell you where the boys are and their next steps to make further progress.

With thousands of individual reports made each year there are inevitably always a few omissions or even administrative mistakes. We will always strive to deal with such quickly, sensitively and with care. On rare occasion I do have to remind some parents that a school report is based upon the professional judgment of a teacher, it is not there for debate or to just make parents feel happy. The best news is honest news and delivered in a considered, helpful and timely manner.

Thank you for your continued support. Enjoy the weekend.

**John Towers**  
Headmaster



## Lower School: Reception, Years 1 and 2

We warmly welcome Rayyan, Aun, Havi and their families into our Lower School, they have all settled incredibly well and are already making real contributions to their class community.

In Reception, we have been looking at people who help us in the community, exploring this concept through different ways. We have also launched into phonic development; children will have begun receiving homework that supports the learning in class. Please ensure that you are signed up to your son's 'Teams' account as there will be additional resources for parents to use and information added on a regular basis. Reception will be discussing 'responsibility' next week, so it may be useful to discuss what responsibilities we have at home and school, and how this is integral to ensuring we remain a strong community.

It's wonderful to see boys in the Lower School exhibiting exemplary manners at mealtimes and developing key social interactions with peers and adults. To encourage mealtime discussion at school, Lower School parents are encouraged to share the menu for the following day and what boys might like to try, discussing familiar, unfamiliar food and healthy choices.

Years 1 and 2 have been using all areas of the school to explore concepts and it's wonderful to see such active learning taking place. Thank you to all the parents sending in their photos and helping us celebrate our individual differences, collective similarities, family traditions and histories. Year 2's chalk 'Space Art' livened up the concrete areas and was highly creative, at least until the rain came!

To help develop early reading, please find attached an overview '**Supporting Early Reading**', which can be used to support our boys as they move from decoding to comprehension.

### Other Awards in Years 1 and 2

In Years 1 and 2 we celebrate kindness, resilience and organisation with the following awards:

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

### Kindness (Kangaroo award)

**1H** - Kiran for using good manners towards the boys and adults.

**2H** - Charles for offering to be, and doing, such a wonderful job as a buddy for a new starter.



Future medics...



Construction engineers...



Art meets Literacy...

## Homefield Heroes

### Reception

**Monkeys** – Andrey for listening and putting up his hand and Sam for super listening and participation in lessons.

**Tigers** – Ari for settling into Homefield so well and being superb at following instructions and Aarav for making excellent contributions in our Topic lesson about our community.

### Year 1

**1H** - Louis for fantastic effort with your handwriting and Harin for excellent effort with confidently adding numbers to 10 and 20. Well done!

### Year 2

**2H** - Kenzo for fantastic effort and hard work during Maths this week and Axel for sharing fantastic contributions about the Amazon Rainforest in Geography.

**2S** - Euan for working hard and getting onto the extension for the maths word problems and Anirudh for brilliant knowledge and enthusiasm in Science.



**2S** - Yuvi has been very kind and has helped Mrs Costain with the chairs in her classroom every day!

### Resilience (Courageous: Koala award)

**1H** - Mirsub for really trying hard to be positive about his learning.

**2H** - Rayyan tackled his first week of a new school superbly after moving back to England from Qatar!

**2S** - Oliver has been brave this week by tackling some tricky questions independently, even though he was worried.

### Organisation (Helping Hands award)

**1H** - Zien for always following instructions carefully.

**2H** - Ved for being super organised this week, listening to instructions really carefully and therefore always being ready to learn.

**2S** - Ayaan has been super organized this week by keeping his table nice and tidy for his team.

## Pastoral

### Senior Department

#### Years 3 and 4

Special mentions go to Arnav in 3S and Ranvir in 4S. Both have the most house points in their respective year groups so far this term.

Kaylen (3P), Zain (3S) and Ezel (4S) have impressed staff by settling into school extremely well and doing the small things like taking the chairs down, saying please and thank you and generally displaying good manners.

Daniel M (3H) is applauded for being an overall responsible Homefield boy, and Zareef (4H) is commended for his contribution during the Year 4 team building activities.

#### Years 5 and 6

The following boys receive a mention for their enthusiasm and commitment during the 'drama' project organised by Miss G:

##### Year 5

Alexander H and Alex Z

##### Year 6

Mikey and Rahul

#### Year 5

Special mentions this week to Keller for settling so well into school life this week and Daniyal for being a great buddy and helping him in class.

#### Year 6

Well done to Adharsh for impressive organisation skills and Jaston for being cheerful and enthusiastic at all times.

#### Years 7 and 8

Special recognition goes to the following boys for making a superb start to the term with a responsible, hard-working attitude:

7MJM: Alex G, Ryan

7MMC: Elliot, Tony

8LC: Faizaan, Harry

8CS: Ronak, Robert

**Special congratulations to Ronak, who has been appointed as Head Boy for the Autumn Term and to Robert, Harry, Siddhant, Ziyad and Jacob for becoming Prefects.**

## Parents' & Friends' Association

We hope that you are all settled back into the school routine, and that any new boys have found their feet. For those of you who are already involved and also anyone who would like to get involved, the Homefield Association (which exists to raise funds and provide social events for boys and parents alike) will be holding its Annual General Meeting at 9.00am on Zoom next Friday, 1st October.

Full details and the Zoom link can be found on Classlist.



Please do feel free to join us and have a think about whether this is something that you could be involved in, going forwards. It makes such a difference to school life.

I hope to see some of you there.

Vicky - Homefield Association Chair



## Music

**Dates for your diary. The Christmas concert schedule will be as follows:**

### *Reception Nativity*

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 3.00pm

New Performance Hall

### *Years 1 and 2 Winter Concert*

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 3.00pm

New Performance Hall

### *Years 3 Christmas Concert – Parents*

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 3.00pm

New Performance Hall

### *Year 4 Christmas Concert – Parents*

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 3.00pm

New Performance Hall

### *Year 5 to Year 8 Christmas Concert*

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 6.30pm

Trinity Church

Congratulations to the following boys who have passed music exams over the summer:

**Grade 8 Piano** - Hanlin M (Distinction)

**Grade 4 Piano** – Magsud A (Merit)

**Grade 3 Piano** - Siddharth P

(Distinction), and Henry P

**Grade 1 Piano** - Lachlan R (Merit), Masood B (Merit), Calum (Merit)

**Grade 1 Cello** - Mikaeel M (Merit)

Apologies if there are any omissions – please email Mr Meyers with any other results for inclusion in the next Headlines.

### **Trinity School Junior Orchestral Day on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October**

The day will consist of a mixture of workshops and full rehearsals with visiting teachers, followed by an informal concert to which families will be invited. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. The day will be open to boys and girls aged 8-12 who have reached a minimum standard of Grade 2 or above in their chosen orchestral instrument. Players of a high standard will also be catered for by tailoring a more challenging repertoire. There will be a charge of £20 for the course; attendance at the concert will be free.

For more information and to book tickets please go to: <https://trinity-school.org/events/junior-orchestral-day/>

(Please contact Trinity school [music@trinity.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:music@trinity.croydon.sch.uk) for any more details **NOT** the Homefield Music Department.)



## Science

This week in science Year 3 have been learning about the skeleton. They know three different types of skeleton: endoskeleton, exoskeleton and hydrostatic skeleton. The boys can also name lots of bones in the human skeleton using Bob the lab skeleton as a model to demonstrate their knowledge.

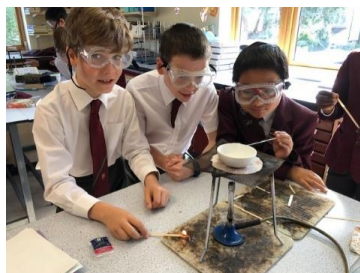


Year 4 have been learning to use Bunsen burners for the first time, and have been successfully awarded their 'Bunsen Burner' licenses!

Year 5 have been learning about the light microscope. They have enjoyed finding out how to use the microscopes to view specimens and how to safely prepare their own slides.



Year 6 have been carrying out lots of practicals to separate mixtures. They especially enjoyed extracting pure salt from rock salt by grinding up the rock salt and dissolving the salt in water. They then filtered out the rock particles and evaporated the water to leave behind pure salt crystals.



## Sport

### Year 3 v Chinthurst

On Tuesday 21st September, the Year 3 banished 18 months of no sports fixtures with a super trip to Chinthurst to play football. The Red team waited patiently for their match and unleashed lots of bottled up energy on the pitch. Haran and Dyllon had some great chances up front and some super defending by Daniel, Kaylan and Vincent meant it was 0-0 at half time. In the second half, the Homefield boys piled on the pressure with Yusuf and Elijah combining really well. Homefield were awarded a penalty but it went wide and Chinthurst ran through scoring the only goal of the game. All the boys played very well. Man of the Match was Elijah M.

The Blue team were full of running with Eric, Sulaiman and Austin all making great runs in the middle. The game was end-to-end and either team looked likely to score. The stand out player for Homefield was Veer who played in goal and made three great saves. The match ended 0-0 and both teams enjoyed the football.

Homefield's Green team played against Chinthurst's 'C' team in a well fought match, with both teams generating lots of tackles and clearances. After five minutes, the ball fell to Ashton who scored with a lovely shot low into the far corner. The score remained 1-0 to Homefield until the second half when Dakarayi scored a quick-fire double after some persistent, speedy dribbling. Aidan hit the post and Arjun went close before Anish scored the team's fourth goal with the final kick of the match after a good run down the middle. Well done to Homefield's Green team who secured a 4-0 victory playing with smiles on their faces!

### Homefield U10 Tournament

On Saturday 18th September, the U10 'A' team went to Reigate St Mary's for a football tournament. In the first match against Caterham, Homefield were in complete control.

## Well Being News

Our Wellbeing Wheel has been splashed across our school wall! These seven titles underpin not only our bespoke Wellbeing Wednesday curriculum, but also underpin themes which help us to maintain positive wellbeing and good mental health. Our first half term of Wellbeing Wednesdays sees boys across the whole school explore what wellbeing means to us as individuals, families and as a community.



This week, we have re-launched our successful Online Wellbeing Club, with a dedicated tile found on TEAMS. This club compliments our in school work and has been designed to be family based for all to enjoy. Activities will be shared fortnightly via Teams and we are encouraging pupils to share these with us in school by uploading photos or documents to the file folders for year groups. Each half term, Mrs O'Reilly will review these with Mr Siva and announce half term 'Wellbeing Winners' in our whole school assemblies, a wonderful opportunity for us to share our commitment to the importance of wellbeing and celebrate this as a school community. Winners will of course be rewarded with 'badges' and certificates. To kick-start the activities, we are inviting you to think about the Wellbeing Wheel and identify what you do to achieve these seven areas... Mrs O'Reilly's weekend will involve a family party, a run and attending an Under 8 football match to get her started!



## Sport/continued

Finn scored early on to settle the nerves and then bagged a second before half time. Noah played extremely well and scored a super top corner goal. HPS won 3-0.

In the second game, Chinthurst in opposition, were much stronger and the score stood at 0-0 at half time. Lachlan made some great saves and William was a rock in defence. Two mistakes led to two goals conceded in quick succession. Homefield battled back with great play from Jaysen and Owais but the final score was a 2-0 loss.

In the final group game against Mickfield, Nathan dominated the midfield with Samuel and Luke working very hard in defence and goal. Nathan scored but Mickfield went 3-1 up. Homefield responded as Lachlan hit a great goal and at 3-2, Homefield camped in their opponent's half but could not find the equaliser. The game ended with a 3-2 loss but both teams had put on a brilliant display of football.

In the plate semi-final, Homefield took on Reigate. Homefield went 1-0 down but battled back to 1-1 with a well-worked goal as Nathan threaded a super pass to Samuel who scored. Extra time was played and Homefield dominated with shot after shot but just could not score. The referee blew the whistle and a penalty shoot-out was to decide which team would go to the plate final! Reigate went first and Finn in goal made a great save. Noah and Nathan converted their spot kicks but sadly Homefield missed two penalties and were knocked out. All the boys were fantastic and we would like to extend a huge thank you to the parents whose positive support was a joy on the sunny Saturday.

### Year 6 Football

#### U11 'A' away at King's House Surrey Cup

Jake D was declared Man of the Match and scored a penalty, supported ably by Oscar M and James D. George made three great saves. The opposition were incredibly strong and the team included two boys signed to professional football clubs, one of whom got a hat-trick including a 20 yard power blaster! We lost 7-1.

#### U11 'B' team v Kingswood House

Homefield's 'B' team suffered a 7-1 loss against a very strong Kingswood House team. Credit must go to Harry who made some fantastic saves throughout the game. Well done to all of the boys who represented the school in the first fixture in 2 years!

#### U 11 'D' team v Kingswood House

On the 'D' team pitches there were two extremely close matches in play. In the first half, Vedanth and Joshua both scored a brace and there was also a goal from Sidd as our 'D1' team went into the half term break level at 1-1 and our 'D2' team were 4-0 up. Kingswood House made a brilliant comeback to score three goals in the second half, meaning a thrilling match for our 'D2' team finished in a 4-3 victory for Homefield. Our 'D1' team pulled away in the second half after goals from Sidd, Joshua and Luke secured a 4-1 win. There could have been more goals but some great saves from Seb and blocks by Rishi and Nikshep kept Kingswood House at bay. At the other end, Aamir and Henry were both denied at close range by the opposition goalkeeper in a thrilling contest. Well played both teams!

#### Surbiton 5-a-side Tournament

##### 'A' team

Homefield's 'A' team travelled to Surbiton on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September to participate in a 5-a-side tournament. Our strong and able team managed to secure 1 win, 1 loss and a draw which got us through the tournament on goal difference with 4 points to our credit.

In subsequent matches, James managed to score with minutes remaining securing a very important point. In the second game, we came up against Cranmore which ended up in a 1-0 defeat. In the third game against Hampton, the boys' attacking ability saw us come out as 4-0 winners with goals from Magsud (2) Anthony and Jake. Homefield ended runners up in the group and moved us into the Cup competition!

A quarterfinal v Milbourne Lodge saw a dominating performance by Homefield which produced a 1-0 win pitching us against Hampton in the semi-final.

Pre-match nerves did not enter into the equation as we saw the opposition off with a 2-0 win.

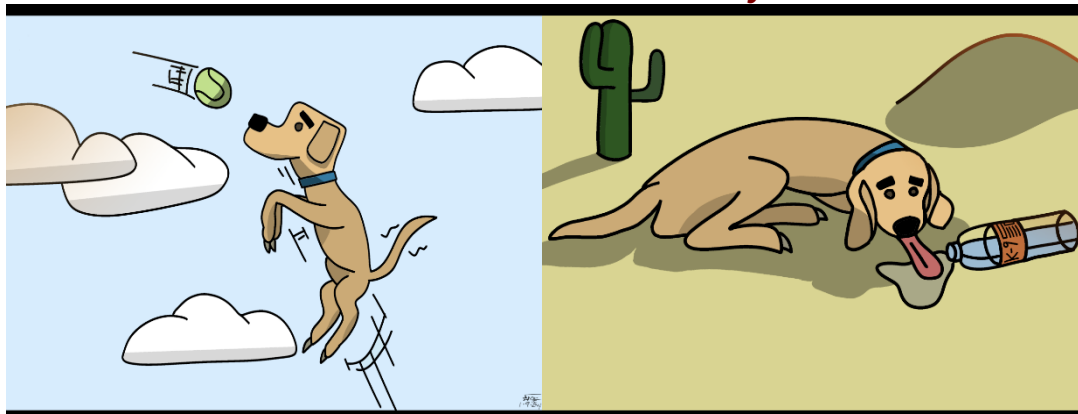
The final was against Cranmore who had beaten us in the group stages but an early goal from James settled any nerves. After numerous chances at both ends and with only two minutes remaining, Cranmore levelled the score! Extra time and golden goal time was declared. The keeper took down James in the box but Captain Jake succeeded in calmly slotting the ball into the goal, crowning Homefield the 5-a-side champions! A great day of football, well supported by staff and parents.

##### 'B' team

The Homefield 'B' team were in a tough group pitted against three 'A' teams: Tower House, Ewell Castle and Surbiton. After conceding an early goal in their first match against Surbiton, Homefield rallied in the second half and Kailan scored a deserved equaliser. Homefield suffered a cruel defeat as, in the final seconds, Surbiton hit the bar and tapped in the rebound for a 2-1 win.

In the next two matches, Ewell Castle's and Tower House's respective 'A' teams proved too strong with Homefield conceding ten goals without reply but their astounding 'never give up' attitude was there for all to see. Finishing fourth in the group meant a place in the semi-final of the 'shield' competition where they lost to eventual winners Willington. A commendable battling spirit was again evident and Homefield got the goal their improved play deserved in the closing minutes of the game with Ayaan scoring after a lovely through ball by Kailan, leaving the score at 1-3. Zayn and Minghao were strong in defence; Harry made several super saves and Rahul and Kevin were composed throughout on the ball.

## Homefield Art Gallery



Hanlin 7H 'My Dog's Day'

### Admin Bits and Pieces

Could parents please ensure that their sons have **everything** they need for the school day (music instruments, sports kit, water bottles, etc.) before leaving home in the morning.

We cannot allow boys to visit the Front Office to make collections as the current office accommodation is not physically linked to the school building.

#### Snacks for After-School Clubs

If you would like to provide a light snack for your son if he is participating in after school clubs, could you please **not** supply sweets and avoid anything that is likely to melt quickly in a warm hand.

Something that can be eaten easily with little assistance such as a small banana or a peeled satsuma, small cheese snack, packet of mini cheddars or a little bar of fruity/cereal type snack, are all suggestions.

Also, a reminder that the school operates a strictly 'no nuts' policy.

### School Photographs

A reminder to parents that individual school photos will be taken on Monday!

Please send your super-smart young man in with a clean white shirt, blazer and tie with neat and tidy hair.

### Tweet of the Week



Homefield Prep School @HomefieldSchool · Sep 16

A truly momentous day here at Homefield Prep! The 3rd and final phase of our building works kicked off with the speedy demolition of our old school hall #NewFuture #Transformation



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Keep abreast with Homefield news as it happens...

Please share and retweet!

