

## Headlines

Autumn Term

25th September 2020



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

ISI inspection report

### Letter from the Headmaster

#### Dear Parents

It can be all too easy to get caught up in the week and to miss the magic right in front of you. Today I had a poignant reminder of that, as our Vice-Chair of Trustees was on site and commented on the enormously happy and productive atmosphere evident amongst the boys and the staff. She is right, this does feel like a welcome island of calm and purpose in a sea of uncertainty across much of our society.

On such, thank you to parents for your forbearance with all our safety measures. I noticed the government mooting another 6 months of restrictions and rules. So, we will just need to muscle forwards, use some common sense and keep our attention to logistic detail. We've noticed just a few parents dropping off outside their allotted time in the morning; please do not do this. The safety of all our boys is paramount. I know 'traffic' can be a wild card, so please park up or wait up outside the grounds if you are early.

I don't know about you, but the whole 'new normal' phrase rather sticks? More 'old normal' please. So, on this we enjoyed our hot dinners back this week.

The boys cracked on with assessments. At this time of year the teachers use CATS diagnostic tools to help us plan the right work for the boys and to intervene where they need more help. We kicked off with our first field trips with our young geographers from Year 8 visiting Juniper Hall, whilst our smaller fellows in Pre Prep were out observing the local environment around the School. When the boys grow up, I hope they can remember their school experience with some joy, particularly when looking back to 2020.

In the meantime, the Bursar and I are often in hard hats and on site in the new wing to help our builders and architects deliver to our expectations. So far, mine are exceeded, whether it's the size, light and quality of the new classrooms or the purpose of the new mezzanine library/ICT suite. Diamond Build, our contractors have been fantastic and so polite and considerate towards our boys and staff.

We will put on thinking hats on and consider a safe way for parents to see this once its opens after the ½ term. As soon as we are moved in, 'phase 2' begins with the new halls up front. I will write to you before that with more details and we will keep the website updated.

Enjoy your weekend.

**John Towers**  
Headmaster

## Pre-Prep Department

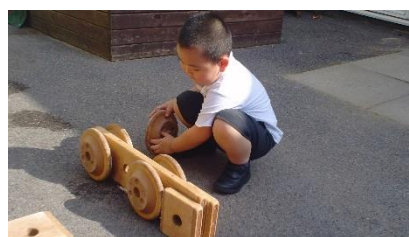
Pre-Prep boys have been impressing us over the last two weeks with the speed they are learning their sounds and already beginning to blend these sounds to form simple CVC words. The boys are learning to pronounce the sounds correctly by purely saying each sound, being mindful not to add an 'uh' sound to the end of them, for example:

'ssssssss' instead of 'suh', 'mmmmmm' instead of 'muh'. This will help them later on when they practise their writing.

The boys have also enjoyed their second STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) challenge this week. They are posed with a challenge each week to 'think outside the box' to design and make something in response to a question. This week's challenge was, 'How can Cinderella get to the ball without a carriage?' It is so interesting listening and watching the boys as they come up with their own answers.



*Pre-Prep Students of the Week*



*Pre-Prep STEAM*

## Students of the Week

**Aaron in Tigers** for making good choices and working so hard in class.

**Aldous in Tigers** for working hard to improve his letter formation.

**Alexander in Monkeys** for improving his listening and making good choices.

**Jaiden in Monkeys** for his enthusiasm in all areas of learning!

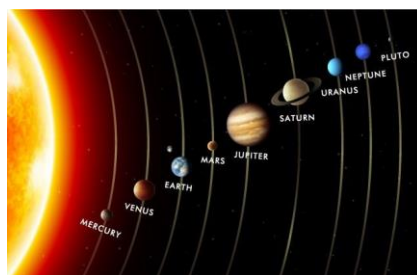
## Junior Department

It has been a very busy time in the Junior Department with the boys working hard in class and enjoying playtimes with their friends.

Year 1 boys are attending a range of different extra-curricular activities this term. In Board Games club, we have been talking about playing fairly and working together. The boys have loved playing Snakes and Ladders and are getting very proficient at moving around the board – it's a great game for boys to play at home. In Lego club, the boys have enjoyed working in teams on different Lego challenges such as building an upside down house! It is lovely to see the boys' enthusiasm and creative designs.



Year 2 have had another fantastic week working exceptionally hard. In Science, they have practised the names of the planets in order and explored key facts about them.



In History, they have delved back in time to the incredible life of Marco Polo, who started his first voyage when he was only 10 years older than our Year 2 boys!

Well done to all the boys for attending the varied activities and settling back into routines so well.

## Junior Homefield Heroes

1H Jai for being a kind and helpful member of 1H and Ayaan for excellent listening and participation in lessons. Well done, boys!

1S Charles for super presentation of his work and for his thoughtful contributions to discussions and Ryan for being helpful and kind to others. Well done, boys!

2H Evan for writing an outstanding postcard in English this week and Faiz for creating an outstanding timeline capturing significant events in his life so far.

2S Aidan for always following instructions and setting a good example to his peers and Dakarayi for producing an amazing fact file on Marco Polo's life during history this week.



## Charities

### Jeans for Genes Day

It was great to see so many members of the Homefield community don their denim, in such a warm week, last Friday for 'Jeans for Genes Day'. To say that B\*Witched would be proud is quite the understatement.

As a school community, we have raised £229.43 to help fund the research and care of those with genetic disorders. Thank you for your generosity.



### London Marathon

Miss Smith will be running the virtual London Marathon on Sunday 4th October. She had trained to run it in April, but due to Covid restrictions, the race was postponed to October, and now is being held as a 'virtual' race where participants run a marathon on a route near to their homes. She is raising money for Guide Dogs and would like to thank all of you who have already donated. If you would like to sponsor her, and help Guide Dogs in a year where charity fundraising has been incredibly limited, please donate

at <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-display/showROFundraiserPage?userId=CarysSmith3&pageUrl=1>

This is Miss Smith's first marathon and she is hoping that the many months of training will get her around the course!



### Operation Bletchley 'Paris' Challenge

In July, Peter (8KWL) took on the Operation Bletchley 'Paris' Challenge with his family.

He had to walk 100 miles and decode secret messages every 10 miles in a month.

He eventually walked 170 miles which is the equivalent of walking from Bletchley Park to Paris and then back to London. He decoded all the secret messages and got his secret agent certificate and medal.

The best news is that his family raised £500 for ABF, The Soldiers' Charity.



## Wellbeing

'Wellbeing Wednesdays' have returned, and this year will be delivered as a weekly form time session. For this half term, our focus is thinking about what wellbeing means and how our 'Wellbeing Wheel' is a useful tool for everyone. Our Year 7 and Year 8 boys have started projects thinking about how we can define wellbeing. I was particularly impressed by Jijith in Year 8, defining emotional wellbeing as 'focusing on how you feel emotionally, rather than physically. It is how one feels at a specific moment in time, IT CAN CHANGE! Change in emotions is okay, but always being sad, or even always feeling happy means that something isn't right.'

Last Friday, saw our new online Wellbeing Club launched via 'Teams' and many pupils have engaged with the activities posted. At the end of half term, we are looking to award certificates to those pupils who have produced and shared some exciting and thoughtful pieces. If you would like to submit your work, please email Mrs O'Reilly or send via your Form Tutor.

Year 3 boys have also been enjoying an enrichment session with a wellbeing focus. Over the last two weeks, we have been thinking about what the phrase 'Here We Are' means and this week the boys were challenged to write this as a poem, thinking about how the last few months have brought about various changes and what it means to them to be back at school.

*I have always loved home  
There's something about the world, everything  
has changed  
Dreams and wishes come true, some don't and  
some do*

*I'll never understand if the world will ever  
change again  
These are the things I will never understand  
But, it is my world.*

**Joshua 3H**

*I have always wanted to go to Australia  
There's something about something  
Dreams and wishes, I wish I could go to the  
moon  
I'll never understand how the Earth moves  
These are the things about Earth I don't know  
But, it is my world.*

**Baden 3S**

## Pastoral

### Giving Tik Tok the Knock-Knock

*'When we were children we just played outside!' and 'children these days are glued to the screens'. While these may sound like stereotypical musings regarding youth and their prolonged exposure to the online world, these were quotes from a family dinner (before recent government guidelines, I hasten to add!) from my aunt to a crowd varying in age. A hot topic seemingly quelled by the heat of a Sri-Lankan meal.*

*While we all need to play our part to ensure that the spoken word is not lost (essential!), we must also appreciate that in today's age, there are ever-increasing ways to communicate. This can only be a good thing when used appropriately and with the right guidance from the community.*

*Thankfully, a lot of apps have helpful and appropriate age-restrictions.*

*Mrs Mach, earlier this week, sent round correspondence on parental controls that ensure avoidable risks are just that, avoided.*

*In today's ever-increasing digital world where more and more of what is being said is recorded and monitored; it is essential that the boys, with our help, get into good habits. Both online and offline.*

*All good wishes,  
Mr Zak Siva, Deputy Head Pastoral*

### Senior Department Homefield Heroes

#### Year 3

The following boys have been recognised as Homefield Heroes for demonstrating excellent collaborative skills:

3H Spandan and Shomik  
3S Aarav and Constantine

#### Year 4

The following boys have demonstrated excellent collaborative skills and admirable good manners:

4H Sheldon and Alexander  
4P Lachlan and Felix  
4S Adam and Zinedine

#### Year 5

Pierce (5S) and Harry (5H) for settling so well into life at Homefield  
Aahan (5S) and Rahul (5H) for being fantastic 'buddies' to our new boys  
Sid (5P) and Zayn (5P) for settling calmly and sensibly into school life and setting a good example  
Lucas (5H), Minghao (5H), Shaan (5S), Oscar (5S), Denis (5P) and Malachi (5P) for demonstrating kindness when interacting with their peers

#### Year 6

Elliot (6H), Boris (6H), Leonardo (6S) and Zak (6S) for being excellent role models in terms of attitude and behavior  
Tim (6H), Aarush (6H), Arnav (6S) and Luke (6S) for being kind and considerate to others at all times

#### Year 7

Ziyad (7LC), Oliver B (7LC), Harry (7LC), Jacob (7MMC)

A special mention to Jacob 7MMC for amassing the most House Points of all pupils in the school so far. The boys from 7LC have all impressed Mrs Colgate with their organisation, diligence and kindness

Hansol (7MMC) for impressing Mr Leung with excellent organisation and work ethic and asking many good questions

William (7MMC) and Jake (7LC) for settling in extremely well this week - they have made an excellent start to life at Homefield

Oliver M (7LC) for impressing Mrs Colgate and Mr Leung by being hard working and enthusiastic and asking intelligent questions

Aqil (7LC) for impressing Mr Leung by working hard in art lessons and settling down to complete tasks

Siddhant (7LC) for being helpful, friendly and reliable in the 7LC form room

#### Year 8

Niraj (8KWL), Qasim (8KWL), Jijith (8MM), Justin (8MM)

Special mentions to Justin and Qasim for amassing the most House Points in Year 8 so far

Jijith for being spotted at 6.40am on an early morning run, and for his great contributions on Wellbeing Wednesday. Well done to Niraj for being very hard-working in lessons

Tom (8MM) for improved confidence in class discussions

George and Barnaby (8MM) for being organised, reliable and highly responsible

Tosan (8KWL) for making a superb start to the year and making a big leap up the House Point leader-board

#### Year 8 Prefects

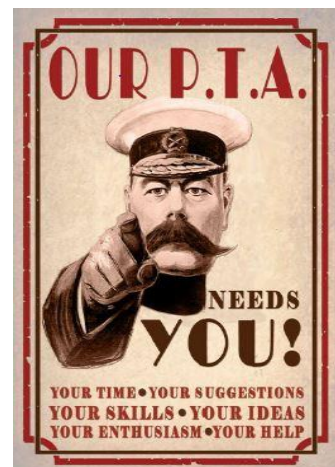
Niraj and Vidwat (8KWL)  
Justin and Sami (8MM)

## Parents' Association

If you are new to the school and have not signed up to Classlist yet, please register at [www.classlist.com](http://www.classlist.com)/or download the free Classlist app.

We are currently looking for more parents to volunteer as a Class Rep or on the HA team. If you are able to get involved, please contact Lizby Sharpe on Classlist or email:

[homefieldassociation@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:homefieldassociation@hotmail.co.uk)



## SIMS Data Collection System

Every year, we need to ensure that the details regarding your son and their contact details are kept up to date. We have previously used paper copies but from this term we have moved to an electronic system.

We would like to introduce parents/carers to the SIMS Parent App "**Parent App Lite**". This app helps schools to collect, manage and handle information and comply with GDPR data requirements, by obtaining accurate data securely from parents.

The SIMS Parent App that will show you your boy's details, such as contact numbers, emails, address, etc., which you can then change, if needed, and the information will then be imported back into the school records automatically.

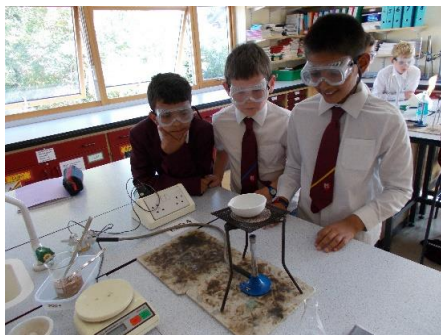
Please check your email inbox for the invitation to register for this app and amend, where necessary, the details that we currently hold for your son.

If any of these should change during the school year, you can simply adjust them via the app.



## Science

Year 6 have learnt how to extract pure salt from rock salt. They started the process by grinding up raw rock salt and adding it to water to dissolve the salt (they can all now use a pestle and mortar so may be useful in the kitchen!). They then filtered this mixture to separate the salt water from the sand particles. Finally, they heated the salt water to evaporate the water leaving behind some beautiful, pure, white salt crystals. After a few months away from the labs, they certainly enjoyed getting back to practical work and using the Bunsen burners!



## Tweet of the Week



**Homefield Prep School** @HomefieldSchool · Sep 22

#Year8 have arrived safely at the Juniper Hall Field Studies Centre, ready for a day of sunshine and learning by the River Tillingbourne #HandsOnLearning #Geography #CommonEntrance



8



Keep abreast with Homefield news as it happens...



<https://twitter.com/HomefieldSchool>

<https://www.facebook.com/homefield.school/>

[https://www.instagram.com/homefield\\_preparatory\\_school/](https://www.instagram.com/homefield_preparatory_school/)

## Uniform Shop

A reminder to parents that the School Uniform Shop (open Mondays 3.30-5.00pm until half term), has gloves, hats (both summer and winter) and scarves in stock.

After half term, these items will be available from the Front Office, while stocks last.

The sizing shop will close at half term but Stevensons in Epsom will be happy to provide a sizing service to parents moving forwards.

## JUNIOR COACHING @ SCTC



3-5 years  
TUESDAY 3.45-4.30pm  
SATURDAY 9-9.45am



5-8 years  
TUESDAY 3.45-4.30pm  
FRIDAY 4-5pm  
SATURDAY 9-9.45am



8-9 years  
TUESDAY 4.30-5.30pm  
FRIDAY 4-5pm  
SATURDAY 10-11am



10 years  
SATURDAY 10-11am



11-18 years  
TUESDAY 4.30-6pm - Beginners  
THURSDAY 4-5.30 - Intermediate  
THURSDAY 5.30-7pm - Advanced  
SATURDAY 10-11am - Intermediate



**PERFORMANCE TENNIS**  
8-10 years  
MONDAY 4.30-6pm  
WEDNESDAY 4.30-6pm  
SATURDAY 8-9.30am

Sign up for courses at: [suttonchurchestennis.co.uk/Events/Calendar](http://suttonchurchestennis.co.uk/Events/Calendar)  
or  
Contact John: 07813 898 701/ [johnnythistle@gmail.com](mailto:johnnythistle@gmail.com)

## PRIVATE TUITION

Our coaches also offer private lessons for up to 4 players.  
John - £50 p/h - 07813 898 701  
Jake - £50 p/h - 07789 511 563  
Kirsty - £30 p/h - 07718 316 214  
Eugen - £30 p/h - 07459 903 388

**JST** Tennis