

# Headlines

Summer Term  
26<sup>th</sup> May 2023

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

ISI inspection report December 2021



Percussion ‘Peri Prom’

## Letter from the Headmaster

### Dear Parents

Last year, we updated our Scholarship Policy to provide for four House Scholarships to be awarded each year. The faculty has considered the standard of the boys’ learning, but also how they learn. Their capacity for soft skills such as collaboration and the commitment to study skills, organisation and even higher order thinking. After much deliberation we have settled on four ambassadors, who will each receive a prize and a commendation on the House Scholar Board. Congratulations to: Yusuf Q (Year 5) in Bomfords, in Greys, Brendan (Year 5), in Ellis, Sidd (Year 7) and in Walfords, Aaron (Year 7). Also, many congratulations are extended to Andrew in Year 8, who is the recipient of the prestigious Martineau Exhibition award from Eton.

The boys shined in entertaining all who came to enjoy the **Peri Proms** over the last two weeks. Thanks to them and to Mrs Griffith for orchestrating the season. Your kind support was really valued by the boys, whatever their level of musical attainment. A total of 163 boys relished the chance to perform solos or small group compositions.

The winners of our **Modern Foreign Language Competition** impressed with both linguistics and real creativity. Well played Ariz, John H, Wesley, Jai, Faiz, Oscar, Arthur, Aaron and Mathew.

On good play, I must mention the recent Year 5 cricket fixture against Chinthurst, a win in hardball cricket, but also a showcase of outstanding sportsmanship and impeccable manners. In addition, a special mention to Kamran (Year 5) and his team who managed a fundraising hike for The Royal Marsden, and also led Assembly last Friday with a presentation on their good citizenship. Very inspirational.

Our thanks again to the **Homefield Association** members who helped us with recent communications audits. A reminder that we plan to streamline all our comms into one tidy and intuitive platform from September. Details to follow. Also do please get your tickets, whilst they last, to the HA Mediterranean Evening at Denbies Wine Estate on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Tickets can be purchased via: <https://app.classlist.com/events/#/events/view/959510676>

As I write the **Governing Board are well into the recruitment of the permanent Head** to succeed me in September. This follows a national, rigorous, process assisted by Odgers executive search, we will let you know the outcome and prior to the end of term.

On finding the right people – did you know that London has the highest teacher mobility rate in the country?

Research points to high cost of living nudging teachers out to more affordable locations. However, our staff mobility is half that of our great City. The average tenure of our faculty is 8 years; a balance allowing continuity but also revitalisation. Being part of a supportive community is going to attract and retain the best staff, so I thank parents for the vital part they play in this dynamic. We have ploughed a broader investment in our people and that’s why enhanced recruitment and retention in the team is so important with everything from a low-cost electric car scheme to trained mental health champions.

My last ½ term, before I move on to serve the Royal Bridewell Foundation as Head of Barrow Hills, will be busy. We now have a start date for the final piece of the capital build. **You will see our ambitious adventure playground taking shape from July.** With the wind behind us we also hope to complete on a **complete refurbishment of the Early Years’ Playground into August.** Staffing is in place and timetabling all done for September, so let’s now enjoy a strong finish to the year.

Kind regards

**John Towers**  
Headmaster



## Lower School: Reception, Years 1 and 2

Reception started the week with a brilliant trip to Gatton Park to take part in a whole day of teddy bear activities. We travelled on the school minibuses for the first time and for some of the boys this was the highlight of the trip! As we were learning what bears need to survive, we learnt about different plants in the herb garden and made a 'smelly cocktail'. We enjoyed doing loud 'cheers' before sniffing our partners cocktail to find the one with the strongest scent. We followed bear prints all around the park which took us to the Japanese garden with a beautiful bridge and a tea house.



We discovered lots of interesting facts about bears, the boys were shocked to learn that bears ate grass! After our teddy bear picnic lunch we had time to play in the fantastic grounds of Gatton Park which involved lots of rolling down grassy hills! After lunch, we played a teddy and tree game outside and then made a 'teddy island' with all the things our teddies would need to survive. The staff at Gatton Park commented on how fantastically the boys behaved and how well they participated in the activities: they certainly did the school proud!



In our other topics, we have continued with our theme of Pirates by reading 'Pirates in the Supermarket' with the boys thoroughly enjoying hunting for the hidden pirates. In both English and Maths, we have focused on learning and using prepositions, finding out why they are important for the reader in stories and following prepositions through barrier games in Maths, which really tested our listening skills!

Last week, Year 1 had an exciting history trip to Hever Castle. We took part in a workshop led by the staff at the castle where we learnt about the different rooms, some of which are over 600 years old! The boys learnt where the inhabitants ate dinner and about the special locks on the doors. The boys were surprised to learn that Henry VIII would take a locksmith with him wherever he went as he was so fearful someone would hurt him! Angus said: *"I learnt that in the Tudor times people used to put a white paste on their face as makeup which was actually poisonous!"*



In Maths, Year 1 have been learning about fractions and the teachers have noticed fantastic demonstrations of the boys dividing their lunch into fractions! The boys know that fractions need to have equal parts, Tise enjoyed dividing his pudding into quarters and then eighths!

In Art the boys have continued learning about the sculptors, Brendan Jamison and Eva Rothschild. They had an opportunity to make their own imaginative sculptures using; bread dough, spoons, elastic bands, sugar cubes, marshmallows and cocktail sticks!

The Year 2, also embarked on a trip this week to the Tower of London, where we participated in a workshop to deepen our subject knowledge of London including the 'Great Fire of London' in 1666. The boys were superbly behaved and represented Homefield well.

## Homefield Heroes

RH Gryffin for excellent work in our prepositions topic and Roger for brilliant participation and listening during our trip to Gatton Park.  
RS Jamie for being so sensible this week and trying hard to make the right choices and Ariz for working independently in literacy lessons.  
1H Angus for phenomenal participation and contributions on our school trip to Hever Castle and Aarav for fantastic effort and work on fractions in Maths.  
1S Philip P for his enthusiasm and participation on our trip to Hever Castle and Aarib for working hard in every lesson.  
2H Zavian for always trying very hard with the presentation of his work and challenging himself more in the classroom.  
2S Ryan for superb focus on his handwriting and presentation skills. and, the whole of Year 2 for exhibiting fantastic behaviour on our trip and for showing everyone how amazing Homefield boys can be!

In Maths, Year 2 have continued their topic of time with a focus on time duration. We learnt how many seconds in a minute, minutes in an hour and hours in a day. It was fascinating hearing how the boys spend their free time in the day. Kaan in 2H said, *"There are lots of hours in the day for me to do reading, which I love."*

In English we have continued with our text 'The Magic Finger' by Roald Dahl, and have been focusing on inferring the characters' feelings and finding evidence from the text to support this.



The Magic Finger

In Science, we have been studying the process of germination and learnt how the different parts of a plant play a unique function in this process.

In Geography, we concluded our topic on the 'Wonders of the World' by learning about the Colosseum in Italy: maybe one day the boys will be able to visit this in real life!

## Pastoral

### Years 3 and 4

There are many wonderful mentions from the last two weeks for pupils in Years 3 and 4. These boys have been excellent role models for the school through their resilience, academic achievements and positive attitude.

#### In Year 3:

Ansh (3H) for his growing confidence and enhanced participation in lessons.

Jaydon (3H) for fantastic contributions to History lessons.

Anirudh (3P) for his growing independence and improved organisation in lessons.

Ralph (3P) for his impeccable behaviour and excellent listening skills.

Alex (3S) for his growing confidence and contributions to group work during Drama lessons.

Ethan (3S) excellent attitude for learning especially in English lessons.

#### In Year 4:

Oscar (4H) for his courage and determination during activities in the residential trip.

Zayn (4H) for being an amazing teammate during the residential trip, always cheering his peers on and boosting morale.

Shivansh (4P) and Yusuf (4P) for excellent participation and attitude in the residential trip.

Ethan and Dyllon (4S) for their independence in the residential trip and always being keen to help where possible.

Zachariah (4H) Arnav (4P) and Easan (4S) for always demonstrating a high level of respect for their teachers and peers.

#### Years 5 and 6

For excellent effort and attitude in lessons recently, particularly in Maths and Science:

5H Thomas X and Enming

5P Jerry

5S Alasdair and Alex H

6H Nashwan

6P Jaysen, Alexander H, Jonathan F and Atharva

6S Kayaan

#### Years 7 and 8

Year 7 Adam for his outstanding effort in the cricket fixture and Rayhaan for sustained effort and attitude in History.

Year 8 Andrew for topping the year group in Housepoints and Ansh for his part in the concerts and his effort with helping on Open Morning.

There is another Year 5 tennis match with Seaton House to look forward to later in the term.



## Sport

### U10 Tennis Fixture

On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May, twelve Year 5 pupils enjoyed a tennis fixture against Cumnor House School. In bright sunshine at Sutton Churches Tennis Club, there were some fantastic shots on show from both teams. Overall, Cumnor House came out on top, winning more matches.

Many of Homefield's players play outside school at tennis clubs and it was great to see their skills put to the test.

Well done to Yaseen, Brendan, Josh, Oliver H, Ian, Rudy, Oliver G, Alasdair, Ezel, Thomas X, Alex W, Thomas C-S! Particular congratulations to Thomas X who won two of his three matches.

## Parents' Association

### Upcoming Events

Denbies Wine Tasting	Friday, 16th June 6.00-7.00pm
A Mediterranean Night Charity Ball	Friday, 16th June 7.00pm-Midnight
Willy Wonka's Summer Fete	Saturday, 1st July Noon

Please join the Homefield Association in A limited 40-person wine tasting in the Denbies Cellar will be taking place before the gala from 6.00-7.00pm. Tickets for this are sold separately at £30 pp. Tickets can be purchased via:  
<https://app.classlist.com/events/#/events/view/959510676>

The Parents' Association are still looking for donations of items or service, big or small, for our silent auction and raffle taking place on the 16<sup>th</sup> June at the Mediterranean evening at Denbies. We would welcome donations from parents to assist the charity ball be a huge success. Please email [homefieldassociation@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:homefieldassociation@hotmail.co.uk) or text 07503465996.

— The Charity Ball Planning Committee, if you are able to assist.

**Summer Fair:** The Parents' Association is seeking volunteers to assist with the Summer Fair. Please get in touch with us on [homefieldassociation@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:homefieldassociation@hotmail.co.uk) or via Classlist or text 07585800978 if you are able to pitch in with planning and help on the stalls on the day. We need help with:

- Welcome / Entrance
- Games Stalls
- Books Stalls
- Food Stalls
- Drinks

### Learning Resources Centre

We bid a warm welcome to our new cohort of Year 6 librarians:

6H	Aden and Hardik
6P	Austin and Zani
6S	Luke and Seyon

Thank you, boys, for all your help.

#### Dates for your diary:

'Adisa the Verbalizer' will be talking and reading 'poetry to Years 3-8 on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

Last day to borrow a library book this academic year is **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June - all books to be returned by 6<sup>th</sup> July.**



## Sport/continued

### Year 3 Cricket v Hawthorns School

On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, the Year 3 pupils all played in a cricket fixture at Sutton CC against Hawthorns.

The Red team batted first: Ted, Yuvi and Keshav scored well but Homefield soon succumbed and were bowled out. The Red team's bowling and fielding showed great promise with three great catches from Arjun, Hussain and Anirudh and a brilliant run out from Jeff.

Hawthorns were eventually victorious, but it was an excellent game with some commendable sportsmanship. A massive well done to Aarya and Mikeal who represented the school for the first time.

The Blue team played out a much closer match and looked at one point as though they might win but Hawthorns proved to be the stronger team when batting. Axel and Finnlay fielded with bravery and skill and some good all-round cricket was evident from Yusuf and Oliver. Well done to Kiran, who represented Homefield in a competitive fixture for the first time.

The Yellow team worked hard and had some great moments including some impressive bowling from Charles and Ved. The Green team also had a fun match and showed some remarkable improvement.

Isaac hit some lovely shots with the bat and Ryan was the standout player overall. Well done to all the boys who played.

### Year 5 Cricket v Chinthurst

On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May, the Year 5 'A' team played their first hard ball match of the season against Chinthurst. Having won the toss, the away team selected to bowl and Homefield were sent into bat. Despite an early wicket, a great partnership between Ranvir and Darwin pushed the score to 40 for one. Darwin was retired at 19 after a great piece of batting, and Ranvir on 12. Josh and Hamza batted well and Aaliyan and Zohad also had a good knock. Chinthurst gifted Homefield with 26 extras.

With 81 scored, Chinthurst went in to chase down the score but Homefield bowled superbly well. All the boys had an over with the exception of Aaliyan who kept wicket with bravery and skill. Darwin got three wickets for 3 runs off two overs and Sarvesh bowled with amazing accuracy.

Harry and Oscar put pressure on the opponents with some great line and length bowling. Spandan and Gary fielded well and after a super team performance Homefield won, restricting Chinthurst to 72 for 4 off 16 overs. Well done, Homefield.



## Music

It's been a busy time in the Music department over the past two weeks. Our second annual peri prom kicked off with Mr Marshall's brass pupils regaling us with wonderful anthems, starting with the beginner Year 4 trumpet group and ending with an impromptu ensemble performance by all involved.

On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May, Mr Woolmer's piano students showed what can be done when you work at your piano lessons every day; and we enjoyed seeing piano recitals from Beginner to grade 6 pieces!

Mrs Martindale's string players filled the hall and brought joy to all the parents with their wonderful violin and viola playing. Week 1 concluded with a wonderfully slick combined concert from Mr Aslangul's cello and Mrs Woolmer's piano students.

Week 2 started with a concert rich in diverse tone and colour from Ms Andrew's woodwind students, bringing you everything from soothing flute solos, punchy saxophone duets to a lovely Year 8 quartet (of which we will see more in the Prize giving in July!)

Mrs Allardyce's percussion students delighted the whole school community with energetic performances after a day of set up and rehearsals, followed by inspiring performances from the year group percussion ensembles (who have been studiously working on these pieces all year), as well as an array of fantastic drummers! Both students and parents came away from the afternoon full of wonder.

**Photographs from the Percussion Peri Prom can be found at: [Homefield School Music evening 24/5/23](#) Password: Music**

Our Peri Prom series concluded with a wonderful guitar recital from Mr Legg's students. A timbral conclusion to our Peri Prom series saw the guitar students of Mr Legg delight parents and staff with guitar music from around the globe. It was the perfect end to a successful Peri Prom Series. Mrs Griffith and all the teachers want to thank students and parents for their commitment and support of the arts!

### Exams

We also had our first post-lockdown in-house Trinity and ABRSM exams again this week.

Students did very well and performed beautifully. Both examiners commended the boys on their presentation and friendliness and said that they thoroughly enjoyed their time with us.

The Results for ABRSM will arrive in due course, but the results for Trinity exams are as follows. Well done, boys.

### Pass

Dyllon A	4S	Violin Grade 2
Finnlay S	3P	Violin Initial
Lewis C	6S	Viola Grade 6
Kamran C	5H	Violin Grade 3
Henry P	8CS	Trumpet Grade 6
Constantine S	5P	Trumpet Grade 2
Spandan P	5P	Violin Grade 2

## Music/continued

### Merit

Olivier D	6H	Trumpet Grade 3
Joshua G	5S	Trombone Grade 3
Brendan P	5S	Trumpet Grade 1
Oliver H	5H	Violin Grade 3
Yug N	3H	Violin Initial

### Distinction

Zachary M	5S	French Horn Grade 2
Oliver G	5S	Trumpet Grade 4
Lachlan R	6H	Trumpet Grade 3
Siddharth P	7MJM	Piano Grade 4
Thomas X	5H	Violin Grade 2
Ved N	5S	Violin Initial

## Tweet of the Week



Homefield Prep School @HomefieldSchool · May 22 ...  
 #Reception boys thoroughly enjoyed taking their bears on a Teddy Bear's Picnic today! @gatonpark #happyathomefield #creatingmemoriesince1870



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



## House Scholars

Congratulations to: Yusuf Q (Year 5) in Bomfords, in Greys, Brendan (Year 5), in Ellis, Sidd (Year 7) and in Walfords, Aaron (Year 7), our House Scholars for 2023.





## Homefield Art Gallery

Rayhaan, Year 7 - Religion and Technology in Harmony



**Free SPORT**  
**Teddy Bear Picnic & Sports Day**  
Charity event in aid of NCT & Downlands Trust

Lots of fun activities for the whole family!

Bring a picnic & enter a Teddy in Fancy Dress to win a prize

Entrance £2.50 per adult, Kids FREE

**Activities:**

- Radio St Helier
- Bezerkaz Circus Skills
- Sports Activities
- Fun Games
- Fun Fair
- Baby Sensory
- Reading Fairy
- Fire Engine
- Beer, Pimms & Prosecco
- Cakes & Sweet Treats
- Rodney's Balloons
- Bug hunt
- Village Ceramics

Bring cash on the day for activities

**Sunday 11 June 12pm -4pm**

Nonsuch Park, Dog free Area, near Mansion House, Ewell Rd Entrance, SM3 8AB

For more information: Noreen 07770 417 796

**Sponsored by...**

- Homefield Preparatory School
- SUTTON HIGH SCHOOL
- GDST GREAT DAY SCHOOL TRUST
- DOWNNS SOLICITORS AND NOTARIES
- THE BIG YELLOW SELF STORAGE
- fennies nurseries
- BANSTEAD ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS



## Sharing Good News

Has your son done anything exciting or interesting outside school? Any achievements that you would like to share with the school community?

Please contact Sue Evans, Head of Admissions & Marketing with a short explanation and a photo ([sevens@homefieldprep.school](mailto:sevens@homefieldprep.school)). We would love to share your son's good news on social media!

## Archery Competition

Zani in Year 6, recently entered Lintman Archery Club Junior Open Shoot and was awarded bronze medals in the Overall Men's Recurve and the Western 20 Men Recurve Under 12 respectively.

