

## Headlines

Summer Term

28<sup>th</sup> May 2021



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

ISI inspection report

### Letter from the Headmaster

#### Dear Parents

To give the boys extra purpose over half term we are going to 'virtually' walk from Olympia, birthplace of the Olympics, to Homefield Prep - nearly 2000 miles. The challenge is for each boy to walk at least 6 miles next week (in one hike or shorter walks). On the 'Wellbeing Club' on Teams, we can share walk photos, or step counts (Strava, Garmin, etc.) and keep a running total. I intend to tackle this challenge myself first thing on Saturday, spurred on by a refreshing finish line in a country pub. Additionally, we would like to fund raise for Place2Be, a children's mental health charity we work very closely with:

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/homefieldprep](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/homefieldprep)

Place2be have just developed a suite of useful new resources for parents. Topics include routines, sibling rivalry and senior school transfer:

[www.place2be.org.uk/parentingsmart](http://www.place2be.org.uk/parentingsmart)

On wellbeing, we had the best part of one hundred parents join us for our seminar of online safety and cultures of dignity within the School. Several parents caught

me to say they valued it, so do let us know your views via the feedback form: <https://shor.at/dSs87LIZ> It may be worth investing in such events moving forward.

On doing well, we found success with the national Junior Maths Challenge competition. This is for students in Years 7 and 8. However, we also enter boys from Years 5 and 6 because it's 'low stakes', we see it as challenge and we are ambitious for our boys. 53 of our boys have won medals out of 87 entries. 14 also move through to the bonus rounds. Bravo!

Meanwhile, in general, we can all benefit from an ambitious and well-structured end to the academic year. Looking ahead, instead of the usual Speech Day we will focus on our boys' achievement in a series of smaller assemblies. The absence of forward advice from the Department for Education, combined with our own grounded experience of managing the pandemic, informs our approach. The same goes for sports days and concerts, low key and not planning for crowds, just focusing on the boys enjoying it.

Mindful that Year 8 boys will be leaving us, as will some in Year 6, we will look to get these parents on site to say goodbyes, and perhaps with a drink in hand, where we can.

With fun in mind we are also running a Homefield's Got Talent Show, for all the boys, to support our Guide Dogs appeal when we get to the last week. Please see the calendar for dates.

Finally, a special mention goes to Jaysen in Year 4 who, over the weekend, prepared a pasta bake for the homeless shelter in Merton. What a superb example of a kind and considerate student. So impressed that our recent teaching theme on 'give to others' found such expression.

Enjoy the half term and thank you for your kind support and patience.

**John Towers**  
Headmaster

## Pre-Prep

Another wonderfully busy two weeks which have flown by. The boys have continued to think about how we can be helpful and kind to others, both in school and at home. We have talked to the boys about the planned charity walk and they have brought home a poster to share with you. We did a little bit of walking this week and will do some more after the half term holiday, so everyone can join in with this event and raise money for the charity Place2Be. Did you know it is about a quarter of a mile to walk around our school field or about 700 steps?

It seems like only yesterday that the boys welcomed the caterpillars to their classes and now we have released the butterflies. The boys really enjoyed this hands-on experience and watching the butterflies flutter away from their playground.

Reading, writing, telling the time, estimating, doubling and halving as well as painting shells in our topic time have all been activities that the boys have engaged in.

## Junior Department

We are delighted with the boys' continued hard work as we approach the half term break. There were great celebrations in the classrooms last Friday morning, during the whole school assembly, when Mr Siva announced that Years 1 and 2 had won a special treat for having the best manners of all the year groups at lunchtime. The delicious chocolate cakes prepared by the kitchen went down extremely well and quickly! Well done Junior Department boys and keep it up!

In Year 1, we have noticed how independent the boys have become and they are certainly growing up very quickly! In Science this week, we observed 'our tree', which is at the front of the school. We noted how much it has changed over the last few weeks and we took the opportunity to have a quick look at the impressive building works. In Art, the boys learnt about the life of van Gogh. They did their own drawing of sunflowers and enjoyed working with wax crayons.

The boys' knowledge of the Tudors is really growing and we are impressed with how much they can remember from previous lessons – we had a super discussion about the foods that the Tudors ate, and how diets have changed over the years.

The focus of telling the time has been on using an analogue clock with the boys working hard to recognise *o'clock* and *half past*.

Whilst we continue to award a 'student of the week' this has now changed name and we have introduced the boys to becoming a 'Homefield Hero' instead (in line with the Junior and Senior Department).



Year 2 have had a busy last week in the build up to half term. We have been learning how to calculate perimeter and area in Maths, whilst also travelling back in time imagining we were news reporters to create an article about 'The Great Fire of London'. We have also designed our own tourism leaflets in Geography to persuade visitors to come to the imaginary island of Struay. We ended the week adding the finishing touches to our ongoing papier-mâché Earth projects - the continents!



## Homefield Heroes

The following boys are Homefield Heroes this week:

**Tigers:** Zien for his lovely fluent reading with excellent expression and Ryan for understanding the importance of caring for animals and the environment.

**Monkeys:** Xander and Jaiden for their brilliant phonics work and sentence construction.

## Homefield Heroes

**1H Ved** for super estimation work in Maths. Well done Ved!

**1H Gianluca** for trying really hard with his cursive handwriting. Well done Gianluca!

**1S Henry** for making great progress with his reading. Well done Henry!

**1S Yuvi** for working really hard and for his lovely cursive writing. Well done Yuvi!

**2H Daniyal** for putting a lot of effort into creating his own island in Geography.

**2H Yusuf** for writing a spectacular newspaper article about the Great Fire of London.

**2S Aidan** for a superb leaflet about the island of Struay.

**2S Elijah** for fantastic effort in his independent writing this week.





## Pastoral

### Homefield Heroes

#### Years 3 and 4

The following boys are Homefield Heroes for trying hard with their written presentation:

3H: Max, Mustafa  
3S: Baden, Thomas

4H: Vihaan, Matthew  
4P: Dev, Felix  
4S: Abdullah, Musa

Well done to the following boys for 'Lovely Lunchtime Manners':

3H: Kamran  
3S: Arvin

4H: Arthur  
4P: Charlie  
4S: Atharva

#### Years 5 and 6

The following boys deserve recognition for their hard work and effort in Science:

##### Year 5

Sid, Aidan, Pierce, Iliham, Harry, Alex

##### Year 6

Philip, Luke, Tim, Andrew

...and for effort and application in TPR:

##### Year 5

Rahul., Khailan, Zach, Shiven, Yusuf, Adharsh

##### Year 6

Henry, Aarush, Humzah, Sulaymaan, Rishan

#### Years 7 and 8

For improved attitude and contributions in English, leading to a fantastic creative writing piece: Rishabh 7MMC

For always being kind, respectful and polite to staff: Zain 7LC, Niraj 8KWL, George 8MM

##### Year 7

William, Hansol, James, Zain I, Aqil and Arjen - all our Librarians for their superb enthusiasm and commitment to their role this half term, reading to Pre-Prep pupils each week and keeping the library organised and tidy.

##### Year 8

8MM: Tom for being helpful to Harry (who is injured) this week, carrying all his belongings to and from lessons.

8KWL: Vansh for earning 21 House Points in the past two weeks for particularly strong classwork and homework in many subjects, particularly Science, Geography and Computing.

## Mathematics

The Junior Maths Challenge (JMC) results are just in. This is a nationwide mathematical challenge that is aimed towards Years 7 and 8. Simply put, the boys have done fantastically well!

This year we have had 87 boys participating across Years 5 to 8.

Sterling effort by Year 5 to achieve 11 medals in their first foray into the JMC. We are confident they will further build on this success next year.

As well as achieving medals, if the boys scored high enough, they were automatically entered into the bonus round (Kangaroo Round) or a further, more challenging, Olympiad. More boys this year made it through to the Kangaroo bonus and the Olympiad.

Well done Sam B, Felix P, Hanlin M and Kai Tian Y for making it through to the Olympiad challenge.

Full breakdown below:

##### Year 8

Gold: 3  
Silver: 8  
Bronze: 5  
Kangaroo Bonus: 1  
Olympiad: 2

##### Year 7

Gold: 1  
Silver: 2  
Bronze: 7  
Kangaroo Bonus: 1

##### Year 6

Gold: 10  
Silver: 5  
Bronze: 1  
Kangaroo Bonus: 8  
Olympiad: 2

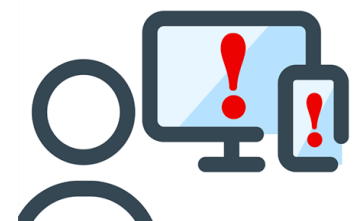
##### Year 5

Silver: 6  
Bronze: 5

## Keeping Children Safe Online

We hope that many of you found last week's presentation on 'Keeping Children Safe Online' helpful and informative. We would very much appreciate your feedback on this event, as it will assist greatly with future planning of inset presentations. Please follow the link below – the whole process will take up only two minutes of your time. Many thanks!

<https://shor.at/dSs87LIZ>



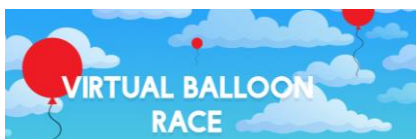
## Parents' Association

### Balloon Race

Congratulations go to Shiven in 5H and his balloon, 'Dragon X', on winning the HA Virtual Balloon Race.

Form 4H are the lucky winners of the race amongst the Form balloons, and treats will be coming their way soon.

We very much hope that you enjoyed taking part, and are delighted to announce that £240 has been raised for school funds.



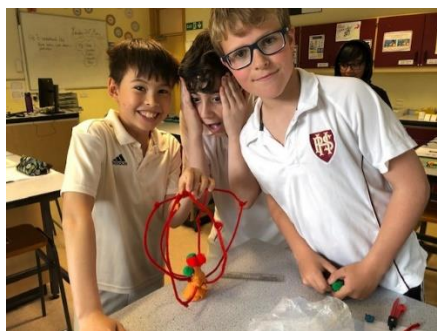
### Doughie's Pizza - Fri 25th June

Our final event of this school year is being run in aid of the Sutton Foodbank in recognition of the fact that this has been a tremendously difficult year for many local families.

Please look out for details on Classlist.com regarding how you can get involved in the Homefield Pizza Night from the comfort of your own home by buying a "make your own pizza" kit or kits which you then cook and enjoy at home. £2 from every kit will go directly to the Sutton Foodbank.

## Science

Year 7 have put their creative talents to the test by constructing model atoms out of pipe cleaners, pompoms and Plasticine. They enjoyed critiquing each other's models by commenting on how well the model showed the three sub-atomic particles; protons, neutrons and electrons.



Year 5 have been learning about materials and were set a homework assignment where they had to create a strong structure using materials that they found at home.

They made some fantastic structures using materials from cardboard and toilet rolls, to balloons and drinks cans. Mikey in 5H decided to test out the strength of his structure using his two cats!



Rahul (5H) made a fantastic video for his homework, which he uploaded to YouTube:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=BNm4PZGSdAw>



Year 3 are currently learning about plants and have completed a flower dissection where they had to identify each part they dissected and match up to the function of the parts. They also used their artistic skills to draw the flowers.



## Wellbeing News

Place2Be, which is our chosen charity for our fundraiser, have a wealth of useful resources that are accessible to all. In addition, they have launched 'Parenting Smart', a new site for parents and carers of 4-11 year olds. This site offers practical advice on supporting your child with a number of short articles and videos that you may find useful. This site is based on evidence and their experiences working with children and their families.

Learn more at:

[www.place2be.org.uk/parentingsmart](http://www.place2be.org.uk/parentingsmart)

Topics covered include establishing routines, sibling rivalry, transition to secondary school and many more that you may find useful.



## Give to Others

This half term's theme is 'Give to Others'. Boys were tasked, over the weekend, to find something they no longer need that could be given to someone else - maybe a family member, a charity shop or even a food bank. Jaysen in 4P decided to go one step further: "We did not donate to a food bank. Instead, we made food for a homeless shelter in Merton. Here is my tuna pasta bake with tomato sauce."



## History

### Townsend Warner History Prize

Our five historical oracles: Samuel, Jijjith, Vansh and Qasim (Y8) and Oliver (Y7) competed this week in the final round of the National Prep School History Competition: The Townsend Warner Prize.

They had already survived an hour long history quiz of 100 questions in 60 minutes, to rank in the top 250 in the country.

This week, they had five essays to write, in just 2 hours, on an array of History topics spanning the centuries.

An amazing effort, thirst for knowledge and exemplar.

Well done boys! We eagerly await the results.



Our Townsend contenders



## Sport

### Fantasy Football Leagues

With the end of the Premier League season last weekend, it was also the final round of Fantasy Football. Thank you and well done to the 100+ members of the Homefield community who took part in one of our leagues! Huge congratulations to our overall league winners, shown in the attached document. Congratulations to the highest scoring pupil who was Raece in Year 5, and to the overall Homefield School champion, his dad Farooq. We look forward to the competition starting again in a few months!

### Cricket

#### Year 5 v The Mall

On Friday 14th May, the whole of Year 5 travelled to The Mall for a cricket fixture. The 'A' team played a timed hardball innings and the game ended in a draw. Ismail and George batted superbly and a great catch by Kailan were highlights of a very close game. Tosin bowled out The Mall's number one batsman with a ball that smashed middle stump.

The 'B' team won emphatically with some super play from Vedanth and wonderful bowling by Adharsh. The 'C' team lost narrowly but some good fielding by Aaron and Aidan and line and length bowling by Aahan, kept the game very close until the last over.

Our 'D1' team fielded first and some excellent bowling from Iiham, Adrian, Yusuf and Krish who restricted The Mall to 49 runs. Chasing 50 to win, Anthony hit a nice four before a few more boundaries followed. It was very close until the final ball when Homefield needed four to win. A dot ball meant that Homefield finished on 46, narrowly losing by just 3 runs. The 'D2' team batted first. Denis, Henry, Lucas and Shiven all hit a four while Zach and Nikshep ran well between the wickets as Homefield set a big total to win. A wicket by Aamir (bowled) and some excellent team fielding secured a 31-run victory for Homefield!

Well done to the whole year group who represented the school.

#### Year 5 v Willington

On Tuesday 18th May, the Year 5 'A', 'B' and 'C' teams played away at Willington. Homefield batted first and despite some excellent defensive shots from Rahul and Ismail, the run rate was not sufficient to post a good score. Tosin and Oscar both hit great fours but Homefield only totalled 45. In fairness, Willington bowled extremely well on a slow wicket giving away only two extras, which is unheard of at U10 level. They continued with skill with the ball despite numerous chances to get the openers out. Homefield were unable to defend the low total and the opponents knocked off the runs with three overs to spare.

The 'B' team also suffered a defeat and the weather conditions were not conducive for cricket. Adharsh and Owen batted well but the total of 233 was not high enough as Willington got 251.

Our 'C' team batted first and there were some lovely fours by Tobi, Muhammad, Zayn, Shaan, Alex and Kavin. Aaron, Aidan and Sidd ran well between the wickets to steal some quick runs. Homefield finished on 38 runs from their 10 overs. Willington made a strong start in their reply and were on 32 runs after their first six overs. However, some dramatic late wickets by Shaan, Zayn and Iiham (2) secured a victory for Homefield - Willington finishing on 25 runs meant that Homefield won by 13 runs. Well done to all the boys who played – a great result!

#### Year 6 v Hawthorns

##### 'A' Team

With the sun shining brightly, Homefield elected to bowl first in a 15 over pairs game. Captain Philip's one handed diving run-out got Homefield off to a great start, with wickets shared around, 7 in total, minus Hawthorns -35 which restricted them to 252: a very accessible target. George and Rishan opened the batting and got Homefield off to a steady start. Luke and Philip scored a four off their first ball leading them to put on 40 in 3 overs. Luke (26) and Philip (8) took Homefield to within touching distance, with steady runs from the next three pairs, which took us up to 289 with smart running, big hitting and even better fielding. A fine match from the Year 6 team.

## Geography

Year 5 enjoyed their Geography fieldtrip to the River Darent in Lullingstone. They got their fieldwork experience of soggy socks and wet wellies and enjoyed measuring the width, depth and speed of the river.



### Young Geographer of the Year 2021 competition

#### Remapping our lives

For this year's Young Geographer of the Year competition, we are asking young people to create an annotated map that reveals how their lives have been shaped by the Covid pandemic.

We are interested to see maps that illustrate and describe:

- Which local human and physical features they and their family used during the pandemic
- Why some places were especially important to young people
- The places they couldn't visit and why
- If the pandemic has led to them experiencing any new places in their local area
- How the pandemic changed their geographical understanding of their local area
- Any links which 'stretch' their maps to other places which were also important to them during the pandemic

<https://www.rgs.org/schools/competitions/young-geographer-of-the-year/2021-competition/>

#### **Homefield Deadline: 21st June 2021**

Entries to Mrs Sheppard C18 - finalists will be submitted to the Royal Geographical Society.

## Sport / Continued

### 'B' Team Score

HPS 257

Hawthorns 258

What a close run game!

### 'C' Team

The 'C' team elected to bat first and set a highly competitive total of 82 from their 12 overs. Jake and Ansh hit a four and Saideep and Hari both hit a six and a four! Homefield lost 15 runs due to three run-outs but other than that, it was a very pleasing innings. When bowling, Homefield made a great start with Arnab and Alex only conceding five runs between them. The highlights of the innings were a great high catch by Ayaan off Hari's bowling and when Sulaymaan bowled out a Hawthorns batsman. Homefield also got four run-outs, reducing Hawthorns to a total of 39, meaning Homefield won by 43 runs! Amazing stuff boys!

### Year 8 v Cumnor House

#### 'A' Team

Homefield U13 'A' took on Cumnor House School at Sutton Cricket Club in their first match of the season. After Cumnor House chose to bat, there were three run-outs in a row, thanks to great wicket keeping by Hugo and excellent bowling by Oli C and Jake that restricted Cumnor House to 128 runs.

Homefield lost a few early wickets, despite Tom hitting two sixes in a row. Then, after a solid innings by Oli C, who scored 17 runs, and a half-century from Sam S, who scored 57 runs, the game looked set for a close finish.

After a mini collapse, Homefield needed 12 runs to win with 1 wicket left. However, Jijith, who scored 10 runs and Peter, who scored 2 runs, took Homefield to the win, with 7 balls to spare. 'Man of the Match' was Oli C for his valuable all-round performance.

### 'B' Team

Homefield fielded first on the 'B' team pitch and got off to a great start when Ilyas bowled out the opening batsman, first ball. Four further wickets were to quickly follow: Archie (caught and bowled), Zega (2 - caught by Oliver M, bowled) and a run-out by Harry. From then on Cumnor House steadily built a competitive score. After some accurate bowling by Cass and Rory, Cumnor House finished on 113 from their 18 overs.

In reply, Homefield were always just above the required run rate of seven per over after Cass (2), Vidwat, Sam T (2) and Oliver, all hit fours. Oliver's running between the wickets was superb - he and Zega stole several quick runs. Zain and Qasim entered as our final pair needing 18 to win from the last 18 balls. Zain hit a four to steady the nerves before Qasim hit two fours and a six to seal a 17-run victory, Homefield finishing on 130. A superb game of cricket, which was played with lots of enthusiasm and encouragement - great team spirit from Homefield!

### 'C' Team

HPS 262

CH 260

Felix with 2 caught and bowls.

## Learning Resources Centre

The boys are continuing to enjoy the fantastic new space of both libraries with roughly 600 books currently on loan, so plenty of reading for the half term.



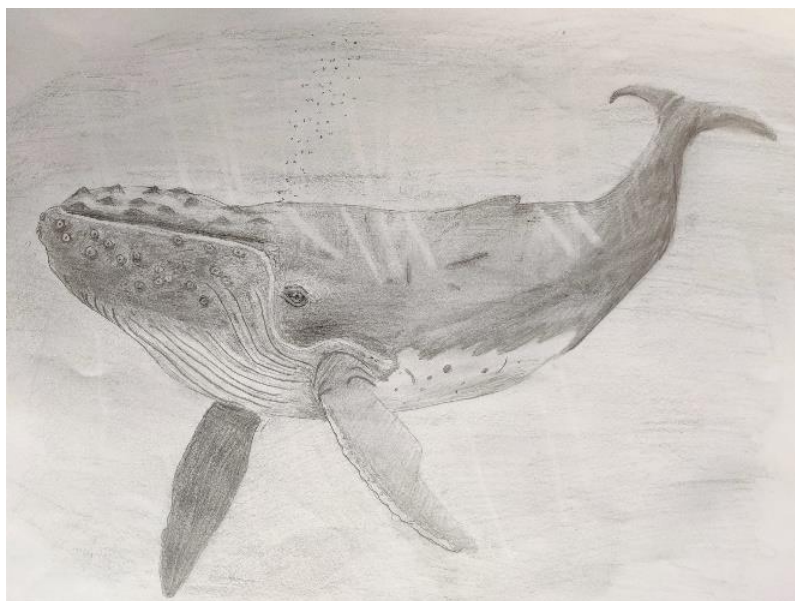
## Music

Congratulations to Andrew Y who has passed his Grade 6 piano with Distinction. He also passed his Grade 5 theory test earlier this school year losing only 2 marks in what is a very difficult exam. Well done.



## Homefield Gallery

Sulaymaan, Year 6 - Nature's Beauty



## Tweet of the Week



Homefield Prep School @HomefieldSchool · May 21

For Wellbeing Wednesday this week #PrePrep boys in Tigers class enjoyed making pictures that showed acts of #kindness and #sharing



## Parking

Could parents please be mindful and considerate when dropping off and picking up children around the school site or at our minibus stops: please do not park across neighbouring driveways, blocking access.

Please refrain from using the Sutton CC/Welcome Gym car park in Gander Green Lane for drop-off and collection. The gym is now open for their clientele and the site can no longer be used for occasional parking by our parents.

Keep abreast with Homefield news as it happens...

Please share and retweet!



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

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