

Headlines

Autumn Term

7th December 2018

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

ISI inspection report



Early Years Department Nativity

Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents

My last newsletter of the term, and as I write I've just been watching Early Years put on a nativity concert for the Junior boys. Over this week and into next, we have performances from Early Years, the Juniors and the Seniors, as well as our music ensembles, both on and off site, for parents and for the local community.

A treat for me is to see the journey from 3 to 13 years in terms of what the boys can do and how they come on over time. Today the singing from the little ones was in tune and very cute. Sitting in Trinity Church next week, I know that matters will be more than just in tune, there will be a quality and depth in evidence that is pretty remarkable.

These moments are worth reflecting upon. At a time where many in education, in both state and independent, seem intent on producing stress inducing 'exam factories' it is worth posing the question what is it all for? Exam league tables, A-levels and university offers all have a central place in the discourse, but I would rather hear first about what sort of human beings are coming out the other side and with what depth of experience and what temperament to life.

A good example of real education, I hope, is right before us: Boys coming together so well in music and song. We've spent time, love and care on that over the years, in order to realise that quality. It is not just an afterthought, it is a deep commitment along with Maths, English, Latin, Geography and all the rest.... Experience, depth and above all, some joy.

Have a great holiday: we break up on Thursday 13th at the usual end of day.

John Towers
Headmaster

Events for next week:

Monday: Nursery boys visit Christmas Wonderland at Chessington Garden Centre 1.00pm – 3.45pm

Junior Concert Rehearsal 2.00pm – 3.30pm

Tuesday: Senior Concert Rehearsal 10.00am – 12.20pm

Junior Concert Rehearsal 2.00pm – 3.30pm
EYD Christmas Fun Session for prospective boys and parents 2.15pm-3.15pm

Wednesday: Senior Concert Rehearsal 10.00am – 12.20pm

Junior Department Concert (Trinity Church, Sutton) 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Senior Department Concert (Trinity Church, Sutton) 6.30pm – 7.45pm

Thursday: CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY for all boys! £1 charity donation please

Chamber Choir singing carols in ASDA, Sutton 12.30pm – 1.00pm

EYD and Junior Department Christmas Parties 2.00pm – 3.30pm

End of Term for EYD and Junior Boys 3.45pm

End of Term for Senior Boys 4.00pm

THERE IS NO LATE BUS AND NO SUPERSTARS PROVISION ON THE LAST DAY OF TERM





Early Years Department

Thank you to all who came to watch our Christmas Nativity of 'A Miracle in Town'. I think you will all agree with me when I say the boys were true stars. The teachers were so proud of them all for being able to learn their lines, have the confidence to speak in front of a hall full of people, learn and sing all those songs, with actions, and finally know where to go and when whilst on the stage. Not bad for 3-5 year olds!

Well done to all the boys who decorated a jam jar for the Christmas Fair. They were so beautiful and it was a very hard choice, but our 3 winners are:

Junxi in Elephants

Ethan in Monkeys

Raphael in Tigers



As we approach the last 4 days of term, we will still be busy with lots of Christmas activities and fun and games. The boys have worked extremely hard this half term and are in need of a lovely break to recharge their batteries. Just a reminder the last day of term is Thursday 13th December.



Our Special Award this week goes to:

Theo in Elephants for brilliant progression in recognising number 1-5!

Our Students of the Week are:

Zayn in Tigers for being such a well-mannered member of Tigers!

Arnav in Monkeys for always being kind and helpful to his friends.

Junior Department

On Tuesday, we were treated to a very informative and interesting assembly from 3S. The subject was 'Dinosaurs' and it really appealed to us all as we loved looking at the models they had made. Year 3 have been focusing on dinosaurs in their History lessons and they have certainly learnt a great deal.

Last weekend, the Year 1 boys all made musical instruments as part of their Science topic. We were amazed by the array of different instruments and indeed they made some interesting sounds! The boys were very enthusiastic demonstrating them to each other. Thank you to all the parents for their support with this project.



We were all invited to watch the EYD dress rehearsal of their nativity play called 'A Miracle in Town'. It was a fantastic performance and the Junior boys loved watching the younger boys perform.

The last week of term is going to be exciting and festive and the boys are looking forward to our concert on Wednesday. Our thanks go to Mr Meyers and Mrs Walker for organising and rehearsing the music. Next Thursday (13th December) we will be holding our Christmas party in the afternoon. The boys are invited to come to school wearing a Christmas jumper instead of their school jumper. We would appreciate a £1 donation towards the Children in Need charity.

The boys have all worked very hard this term and have approached everything with enthusiasm. Many thanks to you all for your support.

The Junior Department staff wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing the boys in January and hearing all about their holiday adventures.

Homefield Heroes

1H Oliver for concentrating well and working really hard.

1S Zareef for being so helpful and for his lovely handwriting. Well done Zareef!

2H Charlie for always making excellent contributions to class discussions.

2S Seyon for always being a kind, hardworking, fun member of the class.

3H Shiven for working hard and being kind and friendly to others.

3S Rayhaan for his depth of knowledge in History.

Parents' Association

We hope that everyone had a wonderful time at the Christmas Fair this afternoon!

Thanks for the huge parental support that we have received this term. We are delighted to have been able to purchase a laser printer for the Art Department and a 'Buddy Bench' for the Junior Department.

Next term, we have lots of fun planned, including a Family Magic Show. After Christmas, we will be voting on which teacher to saw in half! Please put the dates in your new 2019 diaries!

We wish everyone a very Happy Christmas.

Spring Term Dates

Family Magic Show	Friday 25 th January 5.30pm
Senior Disco	Friday 1 st March 6.30pm
Family Film Night	Friday 15 th March 5.45pm
Quiz Night	Friday 22 nd March 7.00pm
Easter Egg Hunt	Wednesday 27 th March 3.45pm

Sports News

Year 4 Rugby Fixture

Our Year 4 'A' and 'B' teams played their first rugby matches of the season on Thursday 6th December at Reigate St. Mary's School, in a triangular fixture also involving Chinthurst School. Homefield played Reigate St. Mary's first and got off to an excellent start in the 'A' team match when Philip scored a try after seven minutes. St. Mary's responded with a try of their own to make it 1-1 at half time and then took the lead early in the second half. After a fantastic run by Musa which pierced the defensive line, Alex then received the ball and powered over to make the score 2-2. It quickly became 4-2 to St. Mary's after they ran around the side of the Homefield defence, before Philip scored again to make the final score 4-3.

Against strong-tackling Chinthurst, Homefield were under heavy pressure as soon as they received a pass and Chinthurst forced several seven-tackle turnovers. 2-0 down at half time, Homefield's target was to score a try in the second half which they did with a couple of minutes remaining through Philip after an excellent run. However, brave tackling and confident running couldn't prevent a 1-6 loss to a strong Chinthurst team.

Particularly pleasing aspects of both 'A' team matches were Tim, Musa, Zak and Henry's direct running with the ball with quick footwork and Philip, George, Alex and Rishan's fantastic commitment to making tackles.

The 'B' team also showed great spirit in their two matches despite their opposition being too strong on the day. Boris, who put in a 'man of the match' performance with his strong tackling, scored Homefield's only try in the 1-7 defeat to St. Mary's. Leonardo also impressed with his committed approach and it was particularly notable that none of the Homefield boys let their heads drop despite then losing 0-8 to Chinthurst. By maintaining this never-give-up approach, and with improved ball retention and increasing the number of tackles, the 'B' team have a good chance of improving on these results after Christmas.



Well done to the 14 Homefield Year 4 boys who represented the school with a fantastic attitude in these fixtures!

Fantasy Football League

Congratulations to the Game Week 14 winners!

League	Most Pts	Team	Manager
Pupils, Parents & Staff	81	Mo' Selecta!	Nick Holmes
Year 7 & 8	49	Titans	Kwame S
Year 6	60	Super Lazer Zippers	George G
Year 5	55	Fiery Fiends	Xavier C
Year 4	63	Mushroom	Musa S
Junior	76	Daniel's Dranners	Daniel W
Parents	81	Mo' Selecta!	Nick Holmes
Staff	60	Smith's Super-Subs	Mr Smith

Game Week 16

League	Most Pts	Team	Manager
Pupils, Parents & Staff	73	Tim's Terrific Team!	Tim S
	73	WolfHarper's Warriors	Tom H
Year 7 & 8	73	WolfHarper's Warriors	Tom H
Year 6	69	Qasim's Superstars	Qasim C
Year 5	63	Regards to Riccardo	Ric F
Year 4	73	Tim's Terrific Team!	Tim S
Junior	61	Light Team	Sheldon H
Parents	64	Gadger's Badgers	Terry Gager
Staff	59	Use The Force Lukaku	Mr Hawkins

Year 6 Rugby v Reigate St Mary's

The U11s produced an impressive win against Reigate St Mary's in their opening game of the season. The boys showed good running with the ball in hand and the ability to pass to the supporting players. Both Joshua A and Riven V scored three tries each with Idhant I (2) and Sam T adding to Homefield's total. Archie H, Barnaby F and Felix P all played well in a fine team performance.

WoW – Walk once a Week

Travel Update from your JTAs

Thank you all for being so good with the WoW (Walk once a Week) scheme. 149 boys have earned their November badges and it looks as if there will be high numbers in December too.

Hopefully, over the Christmas break the boys will continue their activities with some family outings. We are going to run a competition over the Christmas holiday where boys can track their walking every day using an app such as Map my Walk, Fitbit App Mobile Tracker or Strava. There will be a certificate for everyone who takes part and a small prize for the top walker in each form. Take a screenshot of your walk and email it to Mrs Connaughton at aconnaughton@homefieldprep.school

If you fancy a local walk this Christmas, Morden Hall Park is a free entry, National Trust park on the banks of the River Wandle in Morden.

It comprises 125 acres of parkland with the River Wandle meandering through it. You can enjoy a wetland, woodland or riverside walk. There are some rather special winter visitors of the feathered variety to enjoy and the area has a magnificent range of tree specimens in pockets of woodland. Details of specific routes can be found on the website: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/morden-hall-park.

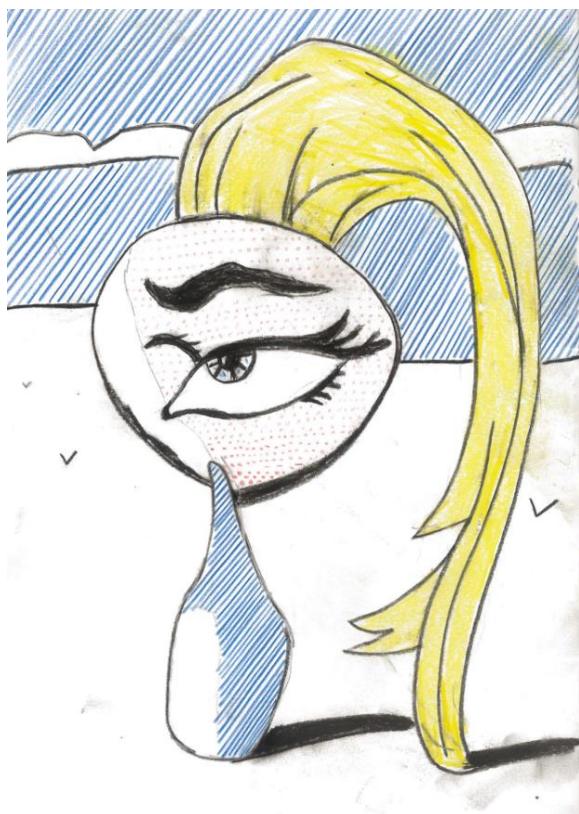
Another great place to have a nice walk is Epsom Downs. Easy going terrain and all dog friendly.

You can share details of your holiday walks with us by sending a photo and short description to Mrs Evans who will upload as many as she can to social media. Email: goodnews@homefieldprep.school

This might inspire others to get out and enjoy the great outdoors over the festive period. Merry Christmas from your JTAs - Benjamin and Vinicius Year 7

Homefield Art Gallery

Nishad, Year 5 - Girl with tear



Italy trip

A few places are still available for our biannual trip for boys in **Years 4-8**, to Rome and the Bay of Naples for the duration of 14th-19th July 2019. This is always a great experience for everyone involved, and evaluation of previous visits has demonstrated that the boys' knowledge and understanding of classics is significantly enhanced by this undertaking, in addition to it being a valuable life experience.

Flying to Rome, we shall be visiting sites such as the Colosseum, Forum, Pantheon, Ostia Antica and Villa Adriana, before making the journey south to the Bay of Naples. There we shall visit sites including Pompeii, Herculaneum, Mount Vesuvius, Cumae and Oplontis. All details for the trip, including costs can be obtained from Mr McCaffery:

mmccaffery@homefieldprep.school

As places are limited they will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis.



Supercamps

The Supercamps team will be running an exciting programme of sports, arts and crafts, workshops and festive games at Homefield during the Christmas holidays. Please refer to the attached flyer for further details. All activities are available for 4 – 12 year olds.





Good News

If you have any good news that you would like to share about your son, that you think others in the Homefield community would be pleased to hear about, then please do drop an email, with a photograph to: goodnews@homefieldprep.school

We will aim to share as much as possible on social media to celebrate the successes of our talented boys.

Clubs

Table Tennis

There are still some spaces available on the Friday afternoon Year 6 to Year 8 table tennis club. Please email or speak to the School Office for further details.

Judo

Should your son wish to start Judo classes in the New Year, please contact Young Stars Judo at: hortonjo@googlemail.com

Administrative Matters

A reminder to parents that boys' absences each day must be reported to the Absence Line (by phone or email) by 8.45am. Many thanks.

Tweet of the Week



Homefield Prep School @HomefieldSchool · 19h

Our Jazz Band boys had a lovely afternoon performing to the children @Childrens_Trust today #Music #Proud #CreatingMemoriesSince1870



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Social Media

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



'Homefield Sp0rt' has its own Twitter page. Follow us for all the latest sports news, fixtures and information at Homefield!



<https://twitter.com/HomefieldSchool>
<https://twitter.com/HomefieldSp0rt>