

Headlines

Autumn Term
8th October 2021

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

ISI inspection report



Year 8 – River Tillingbourne fieldtrip

Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents

Well, we saw off the immediate fuel crisis without cancelling bus runs, fixtures or with stranded staff at home. A big thank you to the school's community for going the extra mile (and many more!) in logistics, public transport and planning.

This week, I would draw your attention to matters around equality, diversity and inclusion. The pandemic has been a call to action really, with so many systems stressed. Take the 'Everyone's Invited' dialogue which found so many secondary schools (and indeed a few primaries) spotlighted with questions on cultures around sexual harassment and violence. In the slipstream of all this, Ofsted published a review. We are fortunate to have positioned ourselves ahead of this curve.

There is more work to do of course. However, our work on relationships, health and social education within our curriculum is relevant and vital. Parents may find this link very helpful and do reach out to our Form Tutors or Heads of Year for support:

<https://www.homefield.sutton.sch.uk/images/uploads/general/Relationship-Sex-Education-Policy-2021.pdf>

Our work on mental health, such as our 'Well-being Wednesdays' or 'My Space' are so well bedded in now, it gives the boys a real depth of support.

Student voice (or views) are going to be particularly relevant to growing positive cultures. We already have robust procedures in place to gain externally validated reviews of pupil perceptions. We've now built this further, with pupil voice gathered and acted upon down to the level of individual subjects. For now, it's a resoundingly positive voice, but we must work very hard on this in a world that's so off-centred at the moment.

In terms of outcomes, again investing in external validation to avoid complacency, we are in a strong place. With attainment, our boys are largely well-above national expectations and that includes pupils who may be identified as having 'English as an Additional Language' or with 'Special Educational Needs'. In our school, diversity is a real strength. It's important to note the academic performance, when considered in terms of ethnic groups, remains notably above expectations. This is down to a relevant curriculum that develops curiosity as well as respect, an embedded understanding of genuine pastoral care, and just very good teaching.

What next? More depth into our curriculum offer. More opportunities for parents to understand what we are doing and to benefit from it (watch out for more themed parent seminars next term). A continued drive to recruiting and retaining a staff team that reflects our diverse community both in the classroom and at leadership level.

We were also pleased to join schools such as Eton, Harrow, St Paul's and Alleyn's in the Schools Inclusion Alliance; a collaboration of independents with a commitment to diversity and inclusion, within high performing schools.

PS Please do check out Page 3 for details of our new assembly programme where we invite parents to come, enjoy and celebrate the boys' learning.

Enjoy the weekend.

John Towers
Headmaster

Lower School: Reception, Years 1 and 2

'What if the Big Bang wasn't the beginning of our universe, but the ending of the last?' This mind-boggling question was posed by one of the boys at Homefield this week and Year 2 have specifically been exploring the unfathomable depths of outer space. We will be continuing this topic, and if you have any cylindrical cardboard rolls at home, the teachers would appreciate these as we move onto designing and building rockets.

Reception will be carrying on the transport theme and exploring how Cinderella got to the ball in STEAM next week. They also have some large pumpkins in the classroom, fitting with the Autumnal time of year, and are looking at size, mass, texture and colourings as we head toward the half term. Do take the time to talk to your son about the seasonal changes as you walk around over the weekend, as this will supplement the work happening in class.

Stemming from an idea within the Lower School, we are happy to announce an Autumn Pumpkin Carving Competition over the half term for all pupils and staff, if you are looking for something to do together. Please see the pdf attached for details, and be mindful that any photos sent in may be used in future issues of Headlines and social media.

Year 1 have been proudly sharing their book reviews with the school and we are exploring our author of the month 'Giles Andreae' across the Lower School. If you do feel so inclined, please explore his books over the month: at the library, at home, or even listen to him read his story 'Elephant Me': YouTube: shorturl.at/lqEX6



As we enter the cooler months of the year, it is important for boys to eat a balanced, healthy meal in order to provide the energy needed to power their brains and their body. Please do continue to discuss the food choices available for the following day.

Thank you all for your continued support, and it was wonderful to see so many smiling (virtual) faces at our Parents Information Evening this past week.

Other Awards 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 awards)

1H Mirsub for always being so polite and Alexander for letting other boys line up before him for lunch.

2H Aun for sharing so nicely and always checking everyone is okay and Ralph for being a good friend and making sure everyone is included at playtime.

2S Kenon for helping his friends resolve disagreements and Charlie for helping his friends and classmates keep their uniforms neat and tidy.

Resilience (Courageous: Koala awards)

1H Zain for making working hard with his handwriting and Yohaam for working hard on some deep thinking challenges in STEAM this week.

2H Ved for being very eager to learn a poem by heart to share in assembly and Henry for maintaining persistence during trickier tasks.

2S Jai for trying his hardest when faced with tricky alphabet questions and Sebastian for his bravery in answering doubling questions in Maths.

Homefield Heroes

Reception

Monkeys - Kylesh for being polite, listening and being an all-round superstar and Aarib for following instructions and making good choices.

Tigers - Zaviyar for making excellent contributions to class discussions and following instructions and Evan for superb focus and independent work in Maths.

1H - Aldous for working hard with his number patterns this week and Zien for brilliant effort and progress with his reading for meaning.

2H - Henry for working very hard to maintain concentration and producing some brilliant work in lessons this week and Gianluca for a phenomenal effort in all his lessons.

2S - Shunta for great work on Christopher Columbus and a fantastic drawing of his ship and Jeff for superb factual knowledge on our History topic.



Organisation (Helping Hands award)

1H Shriyan for helpfully collecting up the exercise books in class and Alex for using his initiative and safely taking down the chairs and helping to tidy the classroom.

2H Alex for tidying up at lunchtimes so efficiently and being super helpful around the classroom and Yahya for being very helpful around the classroom and making sure everything is in place.

2S Isaac for working hard to keep his pencil case and area tidy and Yuvi for helping Mrs Costain with the chairs every morning without fail.

Pastoral

Senior Department

The following boys receive special recognition:

Year 3

3H Karsten - for learning to work more independently.

3P Max - for developing his resilience and determination during football club.

3S Aiden - for demonstrating excellent teamwork and organisational skills.

Year 4

4H Reilly - for always being focused and letting his work do the talking.

4H Rudy - for his respect and conduct this week.

Year 5

5H Charlie - for being a fantastic buddy to all and Masood, for demonstrating excellent teamwork and organisation skills.

5P Beichen - for demonstrating excellent teamwork and organisation skills.

Year 6

6H Tobi - for demonstrating excellent teamwork and organisation skills.

6P Henry - for being positive, cheerful and greeting staff politely.

6S Denis - for demonstrating a mature and sensible attitude to school life.

Year 7

7MJM Ethan - for being a helpful role model and making excellent contributions in lessons.

7MMC Jonas - for a consistently hard-working approach in all subjects which has led to him earning the most House Points of all pupils in Years 7 and 8 so far.

Year 8

8LC Oliver - for a superb approach to the Geography field trip and an excellent English essay.

8CS Arjen - for being a good friend by looking out for others and helping them without being asked.

Parent Assemblies

Over the course of this term and next, we would like to welcome parents into school to watch an assembly put on by their children's year group.

Each of the year group's assembly will begin with light refreshments in the dining room (at 8.25am), before the assembly takes place in our new performance Hall (at 8.35am).

Please make a note in your diary of the dates for your son's year group.

November:

Year 6: 4th November

Year 5: 11th November

Year 7: 18th November

January:

Year 8: 13th January

Year 4: 20th January

Year 3: 27th January

February:

Year 2: 3rd February ☉

Year 1: 10th February

Reception: 17th February

Charitable Giving

The pupils of Year 8 have been busy researching and preparing their presentations on local charities. This year, the school charity will be 'St Raphael's Hospice'. The boys, in their houses, have already started working on fundraising ideas in support of this organisation.

For further information, please do follow the link below.

<https://www.straphaels.org.uk/>



Music

Congratulations to Vincent in Year 3 and Andrew in Year 7 who have both been offered an award from the 'Introducing the Organ' The Christian Strover Memorial Scheme. They will both start their organ lessons in Ewell soon.

Congratulations to the following boys who have recently passed music exams:

Cello - Grade 1

Arvind N (Merit), Samuel A, Harry C & James O

Piano

Grade 3

Josh G (Merit)

Grade 1

Jeff G (Merit), Reilly C (Merit), Aidan C, Arnab S

Drum - Kit Grade 2

Hanchen M (Distinction)

Charterhouse Afternoon

Eleven Homefield boys attended the Charterhouse School Wind Band afternoon on Thursday 7th October. There were 11 participating prep schools that added up to a band of about 100 pupils. The boys and girls were split into two groups, one playing *James Bond* the other *Soul Bossa Nova* and they all played together for a rousing performance of *Happy*, which required an encore from the enthusiastic audience of parents. Sometimes I tactfully use adjectives such as enthusiastic or spirited to describe these performances but on this occasion I can honestly say the performance was excellent and the pieces sounded accomplished! *Andy Meyers*



Charitable Giving / continued

Harvest Festival

A big, big thank you to the parents of the Homefield family for making 'Jeans for Genes' day such a great success. As a community, we have raised over £331 to help with the care and the research of genetic disorders.

Our attention now shifts towards the Harvest Festival. I have been in close contact with Sutton Foodbank to ensure that those struggling with essential food items are supported at this time of the year.

The closing date is the 12th of October for donations to be brought into school.

If you would prefer to give your contributions electronically, please head over to <https://www.bankuet.co.uk/sutton>

Your help, as always, is greatly received.

Harvest 2021



What we need

Please note: we have plenty of everything else!

- Coffee (100g jars)
- Long life orange juice
- Tea bags (40's & 80's)
- Tinned tomatoes
- Pasta sauce
- Tinned tomato soup
- Tinned tuna
- Tinned veg (peas, carrots, mushrooms, green beans or sweetcorn)
- Tinned fruit (peaches, pineapple, apricots or pears)
- Sugar (500g bags)
- Sponge puddings
- Small bars of chocolate
- Shower gel
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Soap
- Deodorants

Thank you for your donations!
They will be used wherever they are needed most.



LONDON 2021

**IF YOU WERE an ENGINEER
WHAT WOULD YOU DO?**

We are pleased to announce that the Leaders Award National Competition have been in touch and have upgraded more of our boys' entries from last year's competition. *Certificates have been issued to the boys that have had their entry upgraded.*

Final results from the 2020-2021 London

Regional Final:

Reception – Yohaana – Winner
 Reception – Shriyan – Winner
 Year 1 – Hussain – Winner
 Year 2 – Evan – Highly Commended
 Year 3 – Joshua – Winner
 Year 3 – Rudy – Distinction Shortlisted
 Year 4 – Calum – Distinction Shortlisted
 Year 4 – Jayden – Highly Commended
 Year 5 – Aaron – Highly Commended
 Year 6 – Shun and Arnav – Distinction Shortlisted
 Year 6 – Jonas and Philip – Winner
 Year 7 – Oliver, Ziyad and Harry – Distinction Shortlisted
 Year 7 – Faizaan – Winner
 Year 8 – Qasim and Samuel S-P – Highly Commended

Well done to all the boys who took part.
 Good luck to all our entrants for this year's

Year 4 visit to Butser Farm

Following the recent field trip to Butser Farm here are a couple of reflections on the visit.

Spandan (4H)

1. What did you learn at Butser Farm?

Butser Farm is an archaeological site. It has reconstruction of ancient buildings from the Stone Age, Iron Age, Roman Britain and Anglo-Saxon period. We went to the Iron Age site and saw reconstruction of Iron Age buildings such as roundhouses. We learnt about how the Iron Age Celts lived at that site, making carpets out of deer skin and drying meat over smoke. They maintained a herb garden and a special toilet for important people. Iron Age Celts were very hardworking people.

2. What was your favourite activity and why?

My favourite activity was digging because we got to experience the job of an archaeologist. It was exciting for me because I didn't know what I would uncover while I was digging.

3. How can you use what you learned in your lessons?

After the trip, I became more aware of ancient civilisation in Britain. I have now learnt ways of living without use of modern tools and technology.

Hanchen (4S)

1. What did you learn at Butser Farm?

I learnt that the Celtic people used wattle and daub to make their wall for their roundhouse. In wattle and daub, there were wet soil, clay, sand, animal dung and straw.

2. What was your favourite activity and why?

My favourite activity was called 'crust'. First, we used a wooden hammer to smash chalk into tiny pieces. Then, we mixed some soil into the dust. Last, we tore some straw and mixed the straw with water. We all had a chance to blend all our mixtures and scrunched it into balls to build a wall.

3. How can you use what you learned in your lessons?

I now understand what life was like in Britain two millennia ago.



BUTSER ANCIENT FARM
Bringing the past to life



Year 4 at Butser Farm

English News



Poetry at Homefield

This week, we celebrated National Poetry Day 'Guerrilla' style! Many of our keen poetry readers and writers, popped into classes to surprise the boys with blasts of poetry. It was 'poems galore' in the LRC too, where Mrs Edwards shared poetry and listened to their wonderful readings.

The theme of this year's Poetry Day is 'choice' and students were asked to contemplate this idea in form time too. We have encouraged the boys to think of themselves as poets and explored ways of developing poems spontaneously in English lessons as well as encouraging performances across the school.

The Lower School boys were treated to some wonderful renditions of poems from our senior students; Henry, Ethan, Ansh, Andrew, Alex, Humzah, Hanlin and Ayyan during their lessons.

Special mentions also are in order for our wonderful KS2 poets and performers: Rudy, Mikael, Ethan, Arthava, Charlie and Rohan who read a mixture of their own and others' poems to Lower School and Year 3 boys during their lunchtime.

Finally, a Headmaster's Crest has been awarded to Henry for two incredible performances at lunchtime, where he captivated the boys with his animated readings.



We leave you with a little food for thought in the form of Haiku, a style reliant on considered choices.

*I write, erase, rewrite
Erase again, and then
A poppy blooms.*

A Poppy Blooms" by Katsushika

Spine Chilling Writing Success

During the Summer term, 18 Year 6 students submitted their own mini-sagas to the Young Writers 'Spine Chillers' competition. We are delighted to announce that all of our submissions have been accepted for publication in the 'Spine-Chillers 2021 – Far From Home' anthology, from a total of 14,000 entries nationwide! This is testament to the ideas and careful crafting of your boys, who have been commended for their 'imagination and creativity, originality and use of language'.

These boys will receive a bookmark and certificate and still have a shot at being selected for the top 3 favourite published writers.



Sport

Year 3 v Hawthorns (h)

On Tuesday 28th September, all the Year 3 pupils played in a fixture against the Hawthorns.

The Red team had a wonderful game with super goals from Elijah, who scored two and Yusuf who also scored twice. Daniel M was fantastic in defence and won 'Man of the Match'. The Red team won 4-2.

The Blue team played a very close game with some lovely football from Antoine and Rishi but narrowly lost 1-0.

The Green team dominated the match with Shivansh scoring twice and Aidan once to win the match 3-1.

The Homefield Yellow team lost 5-0 to their Hawthorns opponents as their star striker scored all five goals.

Zain A almost scored for Homefield with a left footed shot after a great run. Arjen battled brilliantly with lots of tackling and captain Raveesh did well in moving the ball forwards. A valiant effort from the whole team against strong opposition.

Well done to all the boys who played.

Year 4 Football v Cumnor House and King's College (a)

On Thursday 23rd September, all the Year 4 boys travelled to Cumnor House School for their first ever Homefield football fixture. Our 'A', 'B' and 'C' teams all played a triangular fixture, with King's College being the other competitors.

Our 'D' and 'E' teams played one match each against their King's College counterparts who ultimately proved too strong, winning 3-0 and 12-0 respectively. It was pleasing though that Kamran made some excellent saves, while Mustafa, Sulaymaan, Alexander and Yaseen all carried the ball forwards confidently.

On the 'A' team pitch, Homefield narrowly lost 1-0 to King's College and 3-1 to Cumnor House. Oba scored Homefield's goal with a powerful shot into the corner. Mikael was outstanding in goal and Darwin was integral to the team, pushing the action up the pitch.

Sport / continued

The 'B' team lost 9-0 and 1-0 and began to communicate more in the second match. Kota, Hanchen and Zareef showed physical bravery and never gave up. Akesh was very unlucky to see his shot saved after a great forwards run and Reilly made a goal saving interception as Homefield dug in.

Our 'C' team lost 3-0 to King's College before an excellent 3-1 win over Cumnor House. Goals were scored by Aaliyan, Yusuf and Oliver, while Baden set a great example with his sportsmanship. Well done to all Homefield Year 4!

Year 4 Football v The Mall (h)

On Thursday 7th October, all of Homefield's Year 4 boys played football against The Mall. Our 'A' team lost 2-0 but were very unlucky not to score: Ranvir's shot was saved on to the crossbar, Oba hit the post and Darwin's stinging free kick was well saved.

There were jubilant celebrations on the 'B' team pitch when Hanchen powered a free kick into the top corner to secure a 2-1 win after Zareef scored Homefield's first in a thrilling match. Josh made great saves and Akesh put in a 'Man of the Match' performance.

Homefield's 'C' team drew 1-1 in another close, exciting encounter. Baden's goal and Arvin's super penalty save secured the draw!

On the 'D' team pitch, Thomas X scored Homefield's goal as their opponents proved too strong; the final score was 10-1.

Well done to all Homefield boys for their effort in this enjoyable afternoon of football!

U10 Football v Chinthurst (h)

The 'A' team dominated the match from start to finish with Olivier scoring after just one minute. In the third minute, Luke scored in the top corner and Chinthurst were in complete shock and disarray! The accurate passing of Samuel, Nathan and Finn was super and William, Alexander and Damon deafened with confidence. Nathan scored a wonderful goal and Luke got his second of the afternoon shortly after. Chinthurst did score two goals but the damage was already done when Olivier completed a hat-trick. Felix and Charlie both did well in goal despite not seeing much action at their end of the pitch!

The 'C' team suffered a 5-1 loss to Chinthurst: a great effort from the boys who refused to give up after being 4-0 down in the first half. Rohan scored a superb goal in the second half and Matthew S was tireless in his running, earning him "Man of the Match".

Our 'D' team took on Chinthurst in a very exciting match. Homefield scored two quick goals in an otherwise even first half. Isaiah played a lovely pass across the box for Alex M to score in his Homefield debut, before Jayden blasted the ball into the net with a superb low shot from outside the area that skidded into the bottom corner. In the second half, Homefield's defence was under increasing pressure and Daniyal made many important saves, including one shot which he tipped on to the post. Chinthurst finally got their goal with a few minutes remaining, but it proved insufficient as a determined Homefield held out for a 2-1 win. As well as Daniyal's saves, Vihaan, Nashwan and Ethan's tackling was crucial in earning the win. Well done to all the boys who played.

Homefield Art Gallery



Darwin, 4H - Monotone Flower

Tweet of the Week



Homefield Prep School
@HomefieldSchool

Massive congratulations to Miss Smith who ran the #LondonMarathon on Sunday to raise money for @GuideDogs for the Blind. She did it in the amazing time of 4:44:05! #Proud



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