

# Headlines

Summer Term

9<sup>th</sup> June 2023



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

ISI inspection report December 2021

## Letter from the Headmaster

### Dear Parents

A sprint to the finish with a term of hard work (exams for some and reports for all) and good play, from sports days to drama performances. Please check the calendar ahead on the SIMS Parent App for the many events you may like to join.

First up, a reminder that next Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> June the Homefield Association hosts a Mediterranean Evening at Denbies Wine Estate. Tickets can be purchased via: <https://app.classlist.com/events/#/events/view/959510676> The HA has nearly 100 guests attending with the last few tickets remaining. We will see you there: this fundraiser is helping towards our wonderful new Adventure Playground which goes under construction in July.

I am delighted to announce that we have also signed off the project to redevelop our Early Years’ Playground which we anticipate taking place over the Summer break. The same constructor, Touchwood, who so impressed us with their vision of our new Adventure Playground, will complete the works and similarly using sustainable wood providing an awesome play experience.

The last job on my bucket list as Head here. I will be keeping an eye on all of this during the holidays, so that the boys have something wonderful to come back to.



*Proposed Early Years’ playground*

Congratulations to the boys who took grade exams just before the half term. In all we had 29 boys take ABRSM or Trinity grade exams across strings, brass, woodwind and percussion. We saw nine merits and 11 distinctions. Please see page 3 for the list of talent. We look forward to sharing awards in assembly. The School Council have also been raising their profile and impact with presentations in assembly and some events planned for later in the term including a talent show.

In an addition to the calendar, we propose to host another on-line parent seminar. We’ve entitled it ‘**Preparing for AI – what parents need to know**’. Our focus here will be on schools and the potential impact upon children. There is an emerging picture here both of the benefits (such as study skills) and the serious risk (such as bias and safeguarding). We would like to share some of our initial insights and explain how we are adapting our homework and IT curriculum. We need to help boys navigate this rapid change over coming years. On the seminar we hope to have some Homefield Association parents posing questions, and myself, the Deputies and our Head of Computing presenting. A TEAMS link will be forthcoming and please note **11<sup>th</sup> July 5.30-6.15pm** for your diaries.

Kind regards,

**John Towers**  
Headmaster

## Lower School: Reception, Years 1 and 2

In Reception, we started our new topic of 'Moving On', by thinking about our transition to Year 1. We read the story, 'The Lion Inside', by Rachel Bright and reflected upon how we could be brave like the animals in the story. We thought about animals that we connected with and gave reasons why. Reuben said, "The animal I'm most like is a tiger because I can have a loud voice like a roar and I'm brave, I'm also a good thinker." In Maths, we have been recapping topics starting with patterns. We learnt how to represent patterns through colour, shape and actions. Jamie said: "A pattern is something that goes on and on." Clement said: "There's blue, red, blue, red, it's the same."



In Year 1, we have started our English topic on poetry by finding rhyming words and writing our own rhyming couplets. We will also be performing poems and reflecting on what an audience needs in order to be entertained.

In Art we have been using pencils to sketch different insects in detail and attempting to make them look 3D by using shading techniques. See a picture of Kylesh's excellent drawing which earned him a Homefield Hero! In Maths, we are learning about position and direction using the appropriate vocabulary such as: clockwise, anti-clockwise, quarter turn, etc.



Reception and Year 1 have been working hard on our assembly performance scheduled for the 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Please remember that we can only accommodate two family members per pupil. You are welcome in school from 8.30am for a prompt 8.40am start. We anticipate the show to last for approximately 30 minutes. If your son has lines, please help them rehearse these at home.

This week in Year 2, we have started a variety of new topics. In English, we are going to be planning and writing a sequel to Roald Dahl's 'The Magic Finger'. The boys have had many giggles thinking about what they would do if they had the magic finger! We've worked hard to understand statistics and gather information from different tables and charts. Our History topic is 'The Gunpowder Plot', and we are learning who Guy Fawkes was and observed the differences in how he lived, compared to today. Lastly, the boys have had a go at being botanists, observing the school garden and allotment in search of the wildlife and diversity that resides there.

## Homefield Heroes

**RH Dylan** for excellent effort at learning all the songs for our Reception and Year 1 assembly.  
**RS Joshua** for being so enthusiastic during our play rehearsals!  
**1H Sam** for brilliant work on position and direction in Maths.  
**1S Kylesh** for his amazing pencil drawing of a spider (see photo).  
**2H Yohaana** for trying very hard with completing his classwork on time and staying focused.  
**2S Rohan** for an excellent character description in English.

## Parents' Association

We are *desperately* looking for volunteers to help with the Summer Fair on Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023.

*Sadly*, we do not have enough volunteers to *safely* hold the event. If we are unable to get the required number of volunteers by **the end of the day on Saturday 10th June**, we will have no choice but to cancel the summer fair.

If you are able to help with planning, **setting up in the morning** or **hosting stalls**, please can you sign-up on Classlist (link below).

<https://app.classlist.com/events/#/events/view/994290769>

We require help with the following :

- Morning Setup
- Welcome / Entrance
- Games Stalls
- Inflatable Monitors
- Book Stall
- Food Stalls
- Drinks

We need to fill all of the volunteer sign-ups on Classlist before we can confirm the event. We need roughly 25-30 volunteers to rotate on stalls on the day which allows volunteers to help and still enjoy the fair. **Please sign up for more than one slot, if you can, but any help will be much appreciated.**

If you have any questions, get in touch with the HA on:

[homefieldassociation@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:homefieldassociation@hotmail.co.uk) or via Classlist or WhatsApp 0758580097.

## Pastoral

### Years 3 and 4

Just before the half term break, the following boys were named as Homefield Heroes in Years 3 and 4; they were commended for demonstrating excellence in behaviour or in their attitude to learning.

In Year 3, well done to Yug (3H) and Jeff (3S), both for their brilliant efforts and focus in English lessons. Aun (3P) for his kindness and friendliness to his peers, looking out for them in class and break times.

In Year 4, well done to Austin (4H) for his excellent focus, hard work and contributions to History lessons, Daniel (4P) for his fantastic performance on the drums at the peri proms and Anish (4S) for his excellent manners and always showing kindness to others.

### Years 5 and 6

For a superb first half of the summer term, earning the most House Points and showing a positive attitude in lessons:

5H Thomas C-S  
5P Nitin  
5S Eric

6H Aaden L and Hardik  
6P Stefano  
6S Gbemi

### Years 7 and 8

Well done to Siddharth in Year 7 for his work in Science and also having his work selected and displayed on the centre piece in the creator's gallery in the Lego House, Denmark.

Rayhaan in Year 7 for being an excellent rep for the school during open morning and Ansh in Year 8 for his inspiring Open Morning speech to prospective parents.

Well done to all the boys in Year 8 who have calmly and cheerfully undertaken their Common Entrance examinations this week, showing great maturity.



## Sport

### Tennis Fixtures (U13, U11 & U9)

Three recent fixtures have seen 34 pupils represent Homefield School in tennis matches. Our U13 team played a strong Kingswood House side on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at Sutton Churches Tennis Club. Homefield drew in the 'A' team contest and lost in the 'B' team competition. There were wins in doubles for Sidd and Kavin, Alex G and Andrew and Henry and Ethan, with wins in singles for Kavin and Alex G.

Two days later, our U11 team took on Willington on another sunny day at SCTC. Homefield won the 'A' team doubles matches 5-4 but lost the 'A' team singles matches 7-5. In the 'B' team tournament, Willington were victorious. There was some outstanding tennis played by competitors from both schools, which was a joy to watch.

In particular, Abdulaziz, Arthur, Atharva, and Arvind were involved in some very tense, high-level matches for our 'A' team. Luke and Ewan battled hard against strong opponents, and Kane won an incredibly close singles match 10-8 after being 5-1 down. Krish, Deep, and Daniyal also contributed by winning some well-constructed points. Our Year 6 team have another fixture to look forward to later this term.



## Music

Hanchen, in 5H, recently joined an inspiring talk and performance at the Southbank Centre with Sheku Kanneh-Mason, Philharmonic Orchestra musicians and other young musicians from London. They performed some very challenging pieces including Elgar, Brahms and Mozart.



*Fact: Sheku Kanneh-Mason MBE is a British cellist who won the 2016 BBC Young Musician award. He played at the wedding of Prince Harry to Meghan Markle on 19 May 2018.*

Congratulations to all the boys for their hard work with the Trinity and ABRSM exams. This was our first in-house examination programme since 2019. Below are the latest results from the ABRSM exams held before the half term break:

### Pass

Oscar 4H	Grade 1 Cello
Samuel A 6S	Grade 3 Cello
Zachariah D 4H	Grade 2 Piano

### Merit

Ewan G 6H	Grade 1 Guitar
Brendan 5S	Grade 2 Piano
Ethan H 3S	Grade 1 Piano
Oliver G 5S	Grade 6 Piano

### Distinction

Hanlin 8CS	Grade 7 Flute
Kaiyan S 6P	Grade 1 Piano
Jeff G 3S	Grade 1 Cello
Dakarayi 4P	Grade 1 Cello
Oliver H 5H	Grade 3 Singing

Do please make a note in your diary for the following music events:

- Reception and Year 1 Summer Musical: 22<sup>nd</sup> June
- Years 3 & 4 Summer concert with the Year 3 Prize Giving: Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 8.40 - 9.20am
- Years 5 - 8 Summer Ensemble concert: Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 3.10 - 4.00pm

## Sport/continued

### Tennis v Cumnor House School

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June, our Year 4 tennis team travelled to Cumnor House School. Homefield played extremely well, winning the fixture overall with more matches won. Daniyal Q and Dyllon played some lovely shots. Max, Avy, Easan, Hasan, and Faiz won their doubles and singles matches with impressive play. Veer and Kaloyan also got a win in their singles games as they dug in to win the crucial points.

Well done Homefield's tennis teams!



### Cricket U13 B team v Kingswood House School

Homefield's 'B' team were put into bat and got off to a great start when Aaron and captain Petro scored 27 in their three overs. From that point on, the run rate slowed, and Homefield finished on 79 from their 16 overs. There were plenty of boundaries though - Petro, Boris, Ansh, Adam, Humzah, and Alex G all hit fours plus Alex G hit the only six of the day.

Knowing they had to bowl and field well to win, Homefield took several wickets: Aaron (bowled), Ethan (c & b), Boris (caught by Ethan), Petro (caught by Ansh), Jimmy x 2 (caught by Petro and caught by Humzah which was an incredible one-handed catch!) Humzah also got a run out with a direct hit from the boundary. Despite this great play in the field, Kingswood House surpassed Homefield's total with a few overs remaining and got up to 105 runs, meaning they won by 26 runs. It was a competitive match with some moments of individual brilliance - well played both teams!

## IF YOU WERE AN ENGINEER WHAT WOULD YOU DO?®

We are delighted to share with you the results from the latest 'If you Were an Engineer' competition!

### Reception

Shahmeer K – **Highly Commended**

Nufail R – **Winner**

### Year 1

Lavaan S – **Highly Commended**

### Year 4

Maximillian V-B – **Winner**

### Year 5

Rudy G – **Highly Commended**

### Year 6

Charlie B – **Highly Commended**

Many congratulations, boys! This is a fantastic achievement as 10s of thousands of pupils submitted entries into the competition and went through 2 rounds of grading by engineers.

An award ceremony will be held in July at Kingston University where Highly Commended

Pupils will be presented with a certificate and winners will be presented with a trophy, certificate, and badge.

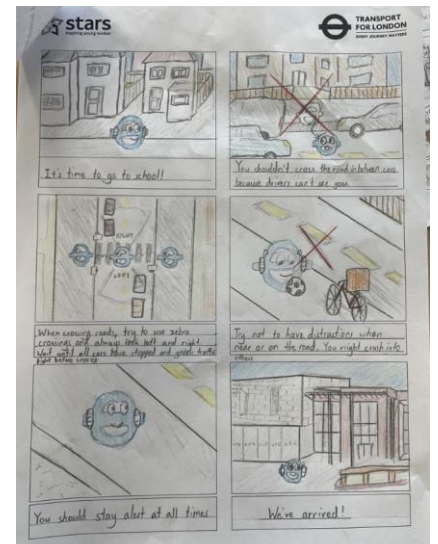
## Comic Strip Competition

Before the half term, the Year 5 and 6 pupils were offered the opportunity to participate in a comic strip competition to promote travelling to school safely.

1st place - Kane in 6P (comic strip entry picture attached)

2nd place - Joshua in 5S

3rd place - Justinus in 5S



## English

The boys in Year 6 are looking forward to presenting their plays. Each play is different, and they each have various run times. All performances will be completed by 6.00pm at the latest when you will be able to collect your son.

**Tickets will not be required** but please only attend the play for your son's class to ensure there are enough seats for all. You are welcome to bring a few family members if you like but do let us know if you plan to bring more than 4.

### Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June

Play 1 Year 6 EA  
Mrs Auty's English class  
Performance Hall 4.45 – 6.00pm

### Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June

Play 2 Year 6 LC  
Mrs Colgate's English class  
Performance Hall 4.45 – 6.00pm

### Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June

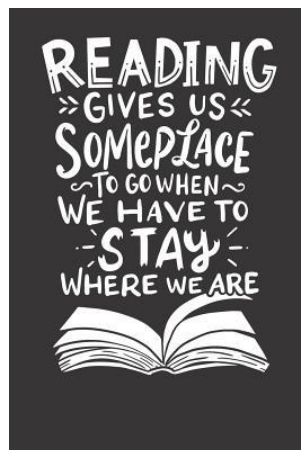
Play 3 Year 6 YM  
Miss Muller's English class  
Performance Hall 4.45 – 6.00pm

## Learning Resources Centre

### 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 please.**



## Science

Here is the latest news from the science department:

From investigating soil types to looking at the planets in our solar system, the Science labs have certainly been a hub of busy learners and excitement recently. Year 3 have been learning about soil types and enjoyed donning their goggles and testing the pH of different types of soils. They know how to match up the colour of universal indicator to a pH scale to determine whether a soil is acidic, neutral, or alkaline. They have also been studying plants and learnt about the parts of a flower by dissecting some rather fragrant lilies.



Year 4 are learning about food and nutrition and as part of their work on deficiency diseases they carried out an investigation to find out which citrus drink contains the most vitamin C. They concluded that fresh lemon juice contains the most, although they think you would need to sweeten it with some honey to drink it!



Year 5 have just started their solar system topic and created some fabulous models of the planets over half term to help spark their interest in this.



Year 6 are currently learning about evolution and took part in a 'battle of the beaks' activity where they used different implements such as clothes pegs and tweezers to model bird beaks and investigated how different types are suited to different food sources. This links to Charles Darwin's observations about the finches he found on the Galapagos Islands in 1835, which led to his theory of evolution.



Year 8 have completed their physical and chemical changes unit and were fascinated by the thermal decomposition of hydrated copper sulphate, which turned from blue to white when heated, and then back to blue when they added water.

## School Council

### Homefield Talent Show presented by the School Council

We are delighted to announce that the boys will be hosting a Talent Show for the whole school to enjoy on **Friday 7th July from 8:30am – 10:00am.**

#### Key Dates:

- **Auditions for Lower School pupils** (Reception - Year 2 pupils)  
**Thursday 22nd June 2023 at 12.45pm - 1.30pm** in the Performance Hall.
- **Auditions for Upper School pupils** (Year 3 - Year 8 pupils)  
**Thursday 22nd June 2023 at 1.45 - 3:00 pm** in the Performance Hall.
- **Dress rehearsal** (for all qualifiers from the audition stages)  
**Wednesday 5th July 2023 from 2:30pm - 3:50pm** (lessons 7-8) in the Performance Hall.
- **Talent Show Performance** (for all pupils and teaching staff).

### Fundraising

We would be grateful for a **£1** voluntary donation from the boys taking part or watching the show. All proceeds raised will go towards **The Children's Trust.**

### Prizes for winning participants of the Talent Show:

#### Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

- 1st prize - £20 voucher
- 2nd prize - £10 voucher

#### Years 3 and 4

- 1st prize - £20 voucher
- 2nd prize - £10 voucher

#### Years 5 and 6

- 1st prize - £20 voucher
- 2nd prize - £10 voucher

#### Years 7 and 8

- 1st prize - £20 voucher
- 2nd prize - £10 voucher

We would like to say a huge thank you to our School Council for implementing this idea and for promoting the Talent Show throughout the school. Our judging panel consists of pupils, members of the School Council, the Head Boy and staff members to ensure a fair selection process.

As much as we would like to include every act that auditions in the final performance, we will be unable to do this due to time restraints. As a thank you for all the pupils that audition, we will be awarding house points for their efforts.

### Clothing

Pupils will be required to wear smart/casual clothes in the colour of their house on the **7th July 2023.** Please ensure they wear trainers as they will be participating in a range of sport-based activities in the afternoon.

## Homefield Art Gallery



Collage – Siddharth – Year 7

## Tweet of the Week



Homefield Prep Sport @HomefieldSp0rt · 4h

Reception House Cricket! 🏏 Well done to all boys and congratulations to Bomfords 🏆 who were the winners. 😊👍 #HPSHouseSport



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



## 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 ([sevans@homefieldprep.school](mailto:sevans@homefieldprep.school)). We would love to share your son's good news on social media!

## Sean McInnes Sports Coaching Multisport Summer Camp

24<sup>th</sup> July to 3<sup>rd</sup> August

Events held at Homefield Preparatory School

Age range 4 – 14 £25.00 per day

Please contact SMSC direct for further information

SMSC Summer Multisport Camp -  
Homefield Preparatory School | Sean  
McInnes Sports Coaching  
[seanmcinnesssportscoaching.coordinate.cloud](http://seanmcinnesssportscoaching.coordinate.cloud)



## Summer Uniform

Moving forwards and hoping for some more summer warmth, we ask that boys come to school in uniform, with their ties and blazers.

If the day becomes particularly warm, boys will be advised that they may remove their ties and blazers and put them in their lockers to take home at the end of the day.