

Hall Grove School Newsletter



www.hallgrove.co.uk

28th September 2012

Edition No: 415

Four years ago we held our first Harvest Fair on the Friday before half term. It has always been a fun occasion with stalls, displays and activities. This year its scope will be further extended to celebrate all aspects of country life including field sports. There will be an opportunity to use a fly fishing rod, to shoot at laser clays and to watch a hawking demonstration. Some vintage tractors will be on show and there will be various other events of an agricultural nature. We are also hoping to have a dog show, goose herding, pony rides and tractor tours of the school grounds. Money will be raised for a charity chosen by the School Council. If you have ideas for events or stalls do please let us know.

Year 7 Production - 'The Perils of Pauline'

Congratulations to Year 7 for putting on a professional and entertaining performance on Monday evening. I feel it is worth noting the children's tremendous discipline backstage (38 pupils made barely a sound whilst waiting in the wings) and to commend them all on such a huge achievement. They performed a play of good length with character and enthusiasm, without the aid of scripts and all within a very short time scale. There were a number of stand-out performances and what a splendid way to kick off their experience in Year 7! Thank you to Mr Tullett, Mr Toulson and Mrs Tilley for their ideas and enthusiasm whilst away in Devon and to Mrs Salmond Smith for her assistance throughout Monday's rehearsals.

Dan Slape

Girls' Schools Information Evening

Yesterday we held an excellent evening to introduce parents to six local girls' schools with 13+ entry. Feedback from parents was very positive. One said she thought it was a wonderful evening; she said the range of schools was excellent and the evening was very informative – her daughter went away inspired. She felt it was a shame though that more parents didn't attend as they missed a good opportunity to find out about girls' senior schools options.

Don't forget our Senior Schools' Fair after half-term on Thursday 15th November, and there is also the Independent Schools Show in Battersea Park on Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th November.

The Drive

It has been reported that there was a very near miss between a car and a pedestrian on the crossing by the barrier yesterday. Please remember to drive very slowly and be alert to children and adults crossing the driveway at all times.

We ask that you do not drive beyond the turning circle when dropping off or collecting children. Children are crossing the drive and walking to and from the girls' changing rooms at these times and their safety is our utmost concern. If you wish to park to come in to school, please do so in the designated parking spaces before the barrier. Thank you for your co-operation.

Year 7 Geography Projects and Battisborough Photographs

Year 7 Battisborough photographs are now available to view on the school website. Pupils may wish to use a selection of them in their Geography projects to illustrate their work on Dartmoor, farming and the river project. They can be accessed from the Home page by clicking on 'Pupil Access' (on right-hand side under film). This will take them to the resources page where they click on the link to show the pictures. They can then either save individual pictures or download all twenty as a zip file. The children are reminded to please complete their projects this weekend.

Flanders Trip

Information regarding the trip for Year 7 and those in Year 8 Remove to Flanders on Friday 12th October has been sent out via ClarionCall email today. Parents are asked to complete and return the consent forms as soon as possible.

5GH Assembly - Thursday 4th October

The children in 5GH would like to invite their parents to their Class Assembly on Thursday 4th October. If you are able to attend, please be in New Hall by 0830. We look forward to seeing you there.

Pre-Prep Parent Interviews - Tuesday 9th and Thursday 11th October

Pre-Prep Parent Interviews will be taking place on Tuesday 9th and Thursday 11th October with the exception of 1KH. To book your appointment, please sign up on the forms which will be available under the archway leading towards Pre-Prep from Monday morning. The parent interviews for 1KH will take place on Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th November, but Miss Hitchcox will be happy to discuss any concerns with parents before then.

Middle School Showstoppers Performance - Wednesday 17th October

On Wednesday 17th October there will be a Middle School Showstoppers Performance in New Hall starting at 1830. Each of the forms will be performing a song and dance number from a West End Musical. Year 3 has a Lion King theme, Year 4 are doing Bugsy Malone and Year 5 are performing songs from Grease. All are welcome to attend.

Hall Grove Open Morning - Thursday 18th October

There will be an Open Morning taking place on Thursday 18th October from 0930 to 1130. It is intended for prospective parents so we should be grateful if you would inform friends and work colleagues who may be interested in sending a child to Hall Grove one day.

Grandparents' Afternoon and Country Fair - Friday 19th October

Calling all smallholders - on Friday 19th October the school is hosting its annual Grandparents' Afternoon and Country Fair. There will be lots of countryside pursuits to experience as well as a Country Market. We are looking for stallholders selling food/produce/homemade delicacies/plants etc. If this interests you and you would like further information, please contact Meirion Shaw (meirionshaw@me.com) who is coordinating stalls on behalf of the Friends of Hall Grove.

Music Department

Calling Brass Players and Percussionists!

Once again, The Brass Academy is running residential courses. They specialise in running courses for brass players aged 8-18 of Grade 1 standard to Grade 8 and beyond. The courses are five days long and can be attended on a residential or day basis. The Easter and Summer 2013 courses are being held at Purcell School in Bushey, Hertfordshire. The Percussion Studio, a specialist percussion ensemble for those of Grade 2 and above, will take place as part of the Easter Course. Further details are available from <http://www.brass-academy.co.uk/>

National Youth Music Theatre

NYMT will be holding a three day workshop for 11-14 year olds exploring all aspects of musical theatre: singing, choreography and staging. The course is running from 29th-31st October 2012 at Kingston College. Further details can be obtained from Mrs Salmond Smith.

Hymn Books

There seem to be a growing number of children without Hymn Books. Please be reminded that all children from Year 3 upwards should have one in their possession, and that it should be clearly marked with their name.

Ukulele Lessons

Our guitar teacher, Mr Beaman, is now able to offer lessons on the Ukulele. Numbers are strictly limited and will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. Please email Mrs Salmond Smith (l.salmondsmith@hallgrove.co.uk) if your child wishes to have lessons.

Informal Concerts

Please be reminded that these begin next week, with the first Middle School Informal Concert on Thursday 4th October at 1245 in New Hall. A list of performers will be posted on the Music noticeboard under the archway.

Sports News

Netball

25th September - The Marist U10 Netball Tournament: Hall Grove finished in 4th place

26th September v Bearwood: 1st VII won, 2nd VII won

26th September v St. Andrew's: U11 A/B won, U10 A/B won

27th September v Cranleigh: U9 A won, U9 B lost

King Edward's School Netball Tournament - Saturday 29th September

The U10 team competing in the netball tournament is to meet Mrs Lomas at King Edward's School, Witley (GU8 5SG) at 0815 and should be collected from there at 1130.

Football

22nd September v King's House: 2nd XI won, 3rd XI won, Colts A won, Colts B drew, U10 A drew, U10 B won

22nd September – Parkside Football Tournament: 1st XI lost in the semi final

24th September v Aldro (Surrey Cup): Colts A won

26th September v Eagle House: 1st XI won, 2nd XI won, 4th XI won, Colts A won, Colts B won, Colts D won, U10 A won, U10 B won, U10 C won, U10 D won

26th September v Parkside: 3rd XI, Colts C and Colts E lost

27th September v Hoe Bridge: U9 A, B, C, D, E lost

Calendar Addition

Friday 5th October: 1st XI v Parkside (Surrey Cup) starting at 1515 (h)

ISFA Football Tournament – Saturday 6th October

U13s are playing at Elstree School starting at 1320

U11s are playing at Cumnor House School starting at 1000

British Gymnastics South East Region Floor and Vault Championship

Congratulations to Ryan Thompson (Year 7) for attaining second place and being awarded a silver medal at the annual South East Regional Floor and Vault Championships held in Guildford last weekend. This competition involved gymnasts from across Surrey, Kent and West Sussex competing from over twenty clubs. Well done Ryan!

Anyone for Tennis?

A group of parents meet for a fun session of coaching and playing on the tennis courts at school on Wednesday mornings after drop off. If anyone would like to join us, please contact Jacques van Eeden on jve@ceresfund.com for more information or just turn up next week at 0830. The more the merrier.

Fundraising Gift Wrap Sale

As in previous years, we are participating in the Northbrook Gift Wrap sale. Leaflets have been sent home with the children today that contain instructions for ordering. This is an excellent opportunity to purchase Christmas and birthday wrapping paper alongside other associated items. Please return completed order forms, together with payment, to the School Office before half term. All profits made will go to charity.

Apples

Do you have any apples on your trees this year? It has generally been a poor harvest because of the bad weather at blossom time, but if you have any to spare (including bruised fruit and windfalls) please save them for the Country Fair and they will be turned into delicious apple juice.

* * * * *

Travel Consultant

Are you looking for a personal travel agent who can take care of all your travel/holiday needs? If so, please contact Helen (a Hall Grove parent) at Travel Counsellors by phone on 01344 881026, by email at helen.thomas@travelcounsellors.com or visit www.travelcounsellors.co.uk/helen.thomas (please note the new contact details). Whatever your travel needs whether it be for a family friendly holiday, cruise, safari, tailor-made holiday, wedding/honeymoon, ski trip, bustling city break or business trip I would love to hear from you and then you can say goodbye to spending hours searching on the internet or waiting on hold with an operator!

Au Pair Available

Liz Watters (an ex-Hall Grove parent) writes: Do you need an Au Pair? Diana Amariei has worked for us for over two years – mainly because we wouldn't let her go! She is a lovely young lady, speaks wonderful English and is extremely intelligent. She took care of our three sons, cleaned our home and cooked occasionally. I cannot speak highly enough of her. Nothing is too much trouble and she goes out of her way to please. Our children are older now and we no longer need her services, but I would have no hesitation in recommending her to a warm family. Please contact Diana directly on Diana.eu@hotmail.co.uk or text her on 07544 160713. Also, you are welcome to contact me on 01344 872855 for a full reference.

