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We are glad there has been no interruption to our lessons this week and that the local roads have been kept clear for parents and staff. Our thanks to everyone for patience during trying conditions. The children have enjoyed plenty of fresh air whilst playing on snow covered fields, but the re-emergence of grass pitches has been welcomed too! Please note that there will be some Rugby training tomorrow in place of the matches.

Music Scholarship

This week we received the exciting news announcing the first award of the 2012/13 academic year. Many congratulations to Marcus Dickson (Year 8) who has won a Music Scholarship to St. George's College, Weybridge.

Year 7 Scholarships

As announced last term, a number of 'all-rounder' awards are available for children who will be moving up into Year 7 next September and for those who will be new to the school in Year 7. The interview and assessment date is Friday 1st March. Full details of the assessment will be sent out to registered candidates two weeks prior to that date. Application forms are available from the School Office and should be completed by Monday 4th February. We hope there will be a good field of candidates from the current Year 6 classes.

2AE Assembly - Wednesday 6th February

The children in 2AE would like to invite their parents to their Class Assembly on Wednesday 6th February. If you are able to attend, please be in New Hall by 0915. We look forward to seeing you there.

New Fleeces

The Uniform Shop is now stocking some excellent grey fleeces which can be worn as an additional layer in cold weather. Please note that grey pullovers are still required uniform at school.

Impetigo

There have been cases of impetigo in school. This is highly contagious and presents itself as crusty and/or sore areas on the skin. If your child has unusual 'spots', please have them checked by your doctor who may prescribe medication. Your child should not attend school for at least forty-eight hours from the start of the medication.

Scarlet Fever

There has been a case of Scarlet Fever reported in Pre-Prep. Scarlet Fever often follows a sore throat. Further symptoms include a red flushed face, feeling generally unwell, swollen glands and a rash which may be itchy. Although it is very contagious, cases are usually mild and can be treated with antibiotics. Children should be kept off school until they have had their first 24 hours of antibiotics.

The Boarding House

We have very much missed Mrs Tilley this term. Unfortunately she had a fall at home at the end of the holidays and suffered a bad break of her wrist which has subsequently required an operation. We now understand that she may well be absent for several more weeks. Mrs Tilley is frustrated not to be back at work and we send her our very best wishes. In the meantime, Miss Furness has gallantly stepped in and has been providing excellent evening cover.

Year 4 Battisborough Boarding Nights

Assuming Mrs Tilley is able to return to work in time, boys' boarding nights have been arranged for Tuesday 26th February and Thursday 14th March and girls' boarding nights for Tuesday 5th March and Tuesday 19th March as a taster in preparation for the Battisborough trip next term. Spaces are limited to one night per child and early booking is advised. Please book via the School Office or Miss Furness (k.furness@hallgrove.co.uk). This is a great opportunity to experience a night away from home before the week in Devon.

Music Department

Music Competition

The Music Competition is later this term and we have a prestigious panel of judges from Bradfield, St. George's Ascot, Cheltenham College and Queen Anne's Caversham. The competition is open to all instrumentalists, regardless of ability, and all children are strongly encouraged to participate. If your child learns their instrument in school, their teacher will submit an entry on their behalf if they wish to enter. For those who have lessons outside school, the entry form is included with this newsletter and must be submitted to Mrs Salmond Smith by Friday 15th February. Late entries shall not be accepted because multiple changes to the schedules are unfair on parents taking time off work to see their children perform; please respect this and ensure that any entries arrive by the deadline. Many thanks for your understanding in this matter.

Informal Concerts

This week saw two informal concerts. On Wednesday it was the turn of nine Pre-Prep children who impressed the audience not only with their playing, but with their confident, self-assured introduction of each piece. Thursday's Upper School concert was equally splendid, and it was super to see a few of our lesser-known instrumentalists take to the stage

The Middle School concert will be on Thursday 7th February. Do please let Mrs Salmond Smith know as soon as possible if your child wishes to perform.

Sports News

No matches were played during the week due to the adverse weather conditions.

Saturday 26th January

Rugby v Thomas's Battersea - the fixture is cancelled. However, there will be training for all the boys who were selected to play in the matches starting at 1000 for one hour.

Hockey Training is cancelled as the astro is still holding snow.

Sunday 27th January

U13 National Rugby Qualifications at King's House - please meet Mr Joll at King's House playing fields at 1020.

Indoor Hockey Trip to Wembly Arena - please meet Mr Marland at Hall Grove at 1030.

Monday 28th January

Lambrook Cross Country - please be aware the U11 races start at 1430 and the U13 races start at 1500.

Tuesday 29th January

Boys' U10 Hockey v St. George's Weybridge - please be aware these matches start at 1615 and are being played after school.

Saturday 2nd February

Next weekend, whilst the House Cross Country is taking place, there will be hockey training on the astro. The timings fit around the cross country and it is open to all the children. Please ensure your child has a mouthguard and shin pads.

0900 - 1000 Years 5 and 6 1000 - 1100 Years 3 and 4 1115 - 1215 Years 7 and 8

Tuesday 5th February

Boys' U10 Hockey v St. George's Weybridge - please be aware these matches start at 1615 and are being played after school.

Newsletter Attachments

The following document is attached to this week's newsletter:

• Music Competition External Entry Form 2013

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