

Headlines

Autumn Term

24th November 2023

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

ISI inspection report December 2021

Letter from the Head

Dear Parents

I hope this newsletter finds you well. Mr Siva and I visited Epsom College this week and were amazed at the sheer number of Amazon parcels we had to navigate in order to sign in. “All because of Black Friday” we were told - I hope this Black Friday hasn’t been too stressful for you!

Our school is now adorned with the festive spirit as we have successfully installed Christmas trees in Reception and the Dining Hall. It was wonderful helping Reception decorate the tree, even though a couple of boys suggested that I would be on Santa’s naughty list! The twinkling lights and beautifully decorated trees serve as a reminder of the joyous season, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere for boys and staff. We will be asking for donations of wrapped presents to put around the trees and at the end of term give to a local children’s charity.

Our gifted and talented boys have been diligently rehearsing for the upcoming Carol Concert and other musical festive events. The school is alive with the sound of joyful carols and festive tunes as our young musicians prepare to showcase their talents. We look forward to welcoming you to these delightful performances.

The spirit of friendly competition and camaraderie has been on full display as all year groups have actively engaged in football matches. It’s heartening to witness our boys not only showcasing their athletic abilities but also embodying the school’s core values of teamwork, sportsmanship, and fair play. I am looking forward to going to the indoor athletics at Wallington High School on Tuesday as we enter a mixed team with Sutton High School into the area indoor athletics.

In our commitment to providing a cutting-edge learning environment, we are pleased to inform you that we are preparing to update our ICT systems. These enhancements will further support our boys in developing crucial digital skills and staying abreast of the latest technological advancements.

One of my highlights this week was to share a delightful lunch with our Lower School boys. It is fascinating chatting with the boys, answering their myriad of questions ranging from Harry Potter to what the colours on my cardigan actually mean! These informal conversations between all staff and boys foster a sense of community and further enhance our wonderful pastoral support for the boys.

As we approach the end of the term, I want to express my gratitude for your continued support and warm welcome to Homefield. It has been a joyous and productive time at Homefield Prep, and I am excited to see what the future holds for our boys.

Homefield: ‘Inspiring Boys’
Mr A S Naismith

Christmas Concert arrangements

29th November 8.40am

Reception Christmas Assembly followed by refreshments.

4th December 8.40am

Year 1 ‘Hey Ewe’ followed by refreshments

5th December 8.40am

Year 2 ‘Hey Ewe’ followed by refreshments

7th December 6.15pm for 6.30pm start

Senior Christmas Concert (Years 4 – 8)
Trinity Church, Sutton SM1 1DZ

13th December 8.40am

Year 3 Christmas Celebration followed by refreshments

Lower School: Reception, Years 1 and 2

In Reception, we welcomed a very special guest, Azai's Mum, who taught us all about Diwali! She read us the story of Rama and Sita, explaining why Diwali is the festival of light. We made lanterns and special cards to celebrate the festival. Adam said, "My favourite part was the bad guy Ravana, he has ten heads!" Aadit said, "My favourite part of the story was when Sita was taken away." We have also started a new topic of 'Space', using the text 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy. The boys have enjoyed creating their own narratives with the space station and even made some creative looking aliens using the popoids and K'Nex. We have used our topic of Space in maths by using the 2D shapes to build rockets and aliens outside. Kieran said, "I have a big triangle, a square and little rectangle." Theo said, "I used lots of rectangles and squares to make my alien robot."



Our Reception boys are now benefiting from a 'free-flow' timetable where they are provided with the choice of playing inside or outside at different times during the day. Lots of the boys have taken this opportunity to invest in learning outside which has resulted in wonderful observations for their learning journeys. It has also allowed the boys opportunities to spend more time with their peers in the parallel class to develop and foster new friendships. You may like to ask your son this weekend which activities he enjoys during 'free-flow' time. Oli said, "I like free-flow because I get to choose!" Ashwin said, "I like it because I love to play outside!"

Please remember the Reception Christmas assembly takes place on Wednesday 29th November at 8:40am.

In Year 1, we have continued our English topic by using a familiar text to explore a range of characters and select appropriate adjectives to describe them. In history, we have continued with our topic of transport by learning about space travel. We learnt about the first moon landing and Bertie shared, "We had to decide if we thought the moon landing was real or fake, I think it is real because it was on TV, and they used a proper camera." Bertie also shared, "We learnt about old rockets, they looked more like a spaceship, now they are pointy at the top." Nolan said, "We learnt about a rocket that went the nearest to the sun, it exploded!" In maths we are applying our knowledge of subtraction by answering multi-step word problems. We have used number lines and ten frames to support and demonstrate subtraction. In Art, we have continued with our Diya pots and will now focus on painting them.

Please remember the Year 1 Christmas assembly takes place on Monday 4th December at 8:40am.

In Year 2, we have been continuing to look at addition and subtraction using a variety of methods. We were able to see which methods are the most efficient and have been challenging ourselves using numbers with a greater value. We have also enjoyed applying this mathematical knowledge by taking part in problem solving activities in small groups. In English, we have been continuing to immerse ourselves into our new text 'The Magic Finger' by Roald Dahl. We have been thinking about superpowers and what ones we would like to have and why. Alan said, "I would choose invisibility so that people couldn't always see me!" Philip E said, "I would choose a dragon superpower so I can talk to and understand dragons." We have also been preparing ourselves for writing a diary entry based on what we have read in the text so far. Ask us what the features of a diary entry are! In history, we have been introduced to our new topic 'The Gunpowder Plot'.

The boys have been deducing ideas from images and thinking about what clues various images can give us that relate to this significant event in history. In geography, we have been really excited to learn more about climate change. We were challenged to reflect upon what we already do for the environment and to think of ways in which we could be more environmentally friendly.

Homefield Heroes

RH- Ashwin for being kind to his friends and using his manners when asking for help. Ethan for working very hard in all areas of his learning and playing nicely with his friends. RS - Shrey for always making sure that his friends are included when playing and Renshan for being so enthusiastic when learning about our topics. 1H - Laurie for excellent effort and resilience in maths and Gryffin for his enthusiasm and effort when describing different characters in English. 1S - Cyrus for always working so hard in everything he does and Nufail for his work in phonics and really challenging himself. 2H - Logan for always treating others as he would like to be treated and showing great listening in lessons and Eesa for being a resilient learner and encompassing the Homefield values at all times. 2S - Philip for his enthusiasm for learning and Andrey for improving his independence in maths.

Swimmers of the week were Charlie, Evan, Tise and Andrew.

Last week in science, we had the opportunity to carry out an investigation that we had previously planned. The investigation was related to which materials would sink or float in water. We had lots of fun testing out different materials such as sponge, rubber and fabric. We started off by creating a hypothesis, followed by testing and then collated and wrote our findings. In art, we have continued to develop our artistic skill through our Nature project. We have been using string on cardboard to bring our abstract ideas to life and we will now focus on monochrome printing as another way of presenting our final designs.

Please remember that Tuesday 28th November is our final week of swimming.

A note for your diaries: the Year 2 Christmas assembly takes place on Tuesday 5th December at 8:40am.

Pastoral News and Activities

Years 3 and 4

Since Anti-Bullying week, the year 3 and 4 boys have had a couple of year group assemblies about anti-bullying and the importance of having rules; in school, at home and in the community. Their PSHE lessons have allowed for more discussion and activities around anti-bullying and to build on their confidence to raise concerns about bullying behaviours.

Our school focus last week was to follow the value of "we treat others as we would like to be treated". With their respectful approach and manners, the following boys demonstrated remarkable initiative in upholding this value:
Dhruv in 3H, Harin in 3S, Ved in 4H and Yusuf in 4S.

This week, the following boys were recognised as Homefield Heroes for various reasons:

Alex 3H - Working extremely hard in lessons and trying his best at all times.
Yohaán 3S - Great focus in lessons and completing work to his best abilities.

Music

Homefield boys have been prominent at last week's Sutton Music Festival:



Max V-B in 5S performed in the Grade 5 Piano group.

Anirudh 4H - His enthusiasm for learning and being super engaged in lessons.

Jaka 4S - Wonderful listening and following of instructions, as well as being very engaged in lessons.

Years 5 and 6

For kindness, respect and positivity in the classroom

Year 5: Yusuf B, Easan G, Nathan M
Year 6: Oliver G, Rudy G, Aaliyan R

Years 7 and 8

HOY commendations last week go to the following boys:

Isaiah in Year 7 for his determined effort in lessons and Damon and Yiannis for big improvements to their listening, particularly in sports.

In Year 8, Sidd for his unwavering commitments as Head Boy, setting an outstanding example and Rayhaan for his caring and positive attitude during lunch with a Lower School boys.

Hanchen in 6S won 1st prize in the Cello Grade 6 and 7 group.



Parents' Association



We are so pleased to invite parents, pupils, families and friends to our [Homefield Christmas Fair & Fireworks](#) on Saturday 2nd December from 3.00-6.00pm. There will be food, drinks, games, and arts and crafts. We are delighted to be able to offer tickets for [Storytime with Santa](#) to our families. There are four sessions across the afternoon, with a maximum of 20 children able to attend each time slot. Every child with a ticket will enjoy a group story with Santa Claus followed by a gift. You're welcome to take photos with Santa or have a little chat before or after your story session.

For those unable to attend in support of our school, please look over [the Raffle](#) offering this year. We have had some very generous donations, and we are still accepting more. The raffle tickets are only available online and the draw will be digital as well.

We are running competitions in advance of the Christmas Fair for Bauble Designs for the whole school and Christmas Candy Jars for Lower School.

If you have any questions or would like to assist on the day, please get in touch with [The Homefield Parents' Association](#).

Many thanks

Charitable Endeavours

Children in Need

Many thanks to the generosity of parents at Homefield, we were able to raise a magnificent £470.98 for last Friday's 'Children in Need' appeal. Many thanks for your support.



String Day – Epsom College

Any boy in Years 4 - 6 who have lessons in a string instrument outside of school are invited to attend a String Day at Epsom College on Tuesday 6th February 2024. Please email Mrs Griffith at ygriffith@homefieldprep.school by **Monday 20th November** if you would like your son to take part in what is bound to be a fantastic day of music making.

Sport

U11 Football v The Mall

On Friday 10th November, all of Year 5 played a home football fixture against the Mall. The 'A' team worked incredibly hard against a very good football opponent. Max made some great saves early on but a speculative shot from the edge of the area hit the top corner. Homefield were behind but great battling from Haran led to a through ball to Yusuf but his shot was well saved by the keeper. Samuel and Kaylan were excellent in defence constantly breaking up attacks and were joint 'man of the match'. The Mall scored two late goals but the boys reflected it was their best game of the season in terms of effort despite the result.

The 'B' team were put under lots of pressure throughout their game. Dakaray and Kaloyan played great games but the opponents were very strong. Homefield were 3-0 down and forced an own goal to bring the score to 3-1, but The Mall scored an impressive four goals. Vincent worked hard throughout as did Eric in goal.

The 'C' team also lost but the score line flattered the opposition. Two super goals from Austin were a highlight as was the efforts of Zayn K and Easan.

The 'D' team played a really fun game. Avy scored and Homefield forced two own goals from The Mall but they just sneaked a win in the last five minutes. All the boys did their very best in a fun afternoon of football.

U13 v Cumnor House

On Monday 13th November, Years 7 and 8 played Cumnor House away at their sports fields. The 'A' team performed well against a strong team having drawn with them previously. Homefield didn't have the best start but warmed up through the game with encouragement from Mr Matthews. Our defence was strong but we needed some improvement in our attack. The first half saw many amazing tackles from Adam. There was some good attacking play and finally a goal from Petro! In the second half, to our advantage, the pitch had a downward slope. We had some close chances for a goal but sadly our goal attempts were denied. Cumnor House were close to scoring a few times but Harry made some amazing saves. At the end of the game it was a 1-0 win to Homefield!

The U13 'B' team enjoyed their high-scoring match at Cumnor House. Sofian scored his first goal for Homefield after hitting the post against Kingswood House the week before, and there were also goals for Rayhaan, Yiannis, Zachy and Aaron (4). Cumnor House got one goal back and had several other chances, but Sachin and Zaidan made some super saves.

On the 13th November, the 'C' team played against Cumnor House and came out victorious with a brilliant 6-0 win featuring goals from Nsama, Alex, Henry (first goal of the season), and Isiah (hatrick). This match was played in great spirit, and the boys clearly demonstrated the Homefield values throughout the match: 'Always try your best at all times'.
Henry Year 8

Homefield U9 v Kingswood House

On Thursday 16th November, Homefield's U9 boys took to the field against Kingswood House, closing off the season with two great victories, 6-0 and 3-1. Demonstrating great teamwork and a plethora of goals across both teams, there were notable performances from Benji and Kenzo, both scoring 2 goals and enjoying their debut in the 'A' team. A fantastic way to end a great term of U9 football. Well done, boys.

U10 Football v Ewell Castle

On Monday 20th November, the U10 'A' and 'C' teams played a home football fixture against Ewell Castle. The 'A' team started brightly with some wonderful passing moves that nearly led to an early goal from Advik. The game then swung in Ewell's favour as they applied pressure but Zain I, Kaylan and Samuel were solid in defence. Ewell forced four corners in a row, but Max organised his defence well and Homefield were able to resist the attacks. At half time it was 0-0 and the team talk centred on keeping possession and moving the ball forward quickly. In the closing 5 minutes of the game, Homefield did just that and a super pass from Haran led Yusuf to beat a defender and score a wonderful goal from an acute angle. However, with minutes to go, Ewell equalised from a long ball over the top and an accomplished finish from their striker. A great game by both teams ended in a draw 1-1.

Year 3 Football

On Tuesday 21st November, the Year 3 boys all played in a football fixture at home against Surbiton. The Green team maintained their unbeaten record for the season and were two goals up in the first four minutes of the match, A great save by Mirsub led to a pass to William who moved the ball forward to Yahia to score a magnificent goal. Remo then scored after a super tackle from Kaan to put Homefield in control of the game. Yahia went on to score his second goal and it was three nil by half time. Surbiton pushed forward but good defending from Johan and Louis meant the score finished 3-0 to Homefield.

The Yellow team played out a five-goal thriller. The game was end to end and despite going behind Elijah scored a great goal to equalise. Viyan then scored and it was game on but Surbiton hit back and managed to just edge a win in the last five minutes of the game.

The Blue team also played a very close match just losing 2-1. Ivaan and Kiean worked tirelessly all game and Zayn M created lots of chances, however, Homefield were unlucky not to score just before half time. Surbiton forged ahead but Micheal, in a rich vein of scoring form, notched yet another goal in the top corner. Surbiton edged ahead but Homefield carried on relentlessly and the away goalkeeper had to make three great saves to keep Homefield out.

The Red team played out an exciting draw. Despite neither team scoring a goal both defences were superb. Wesley and Aarya combined to set up a chance but Surbiton's goalkeeper made a super save. Harin and Zaviaan made wonderful tackles and Alex made several fantastic saves to deny the visitors. The game ended 0-0 and both teams deserved the draw. Well done to all the boys who played.



Science and STEAM

Year 3 have been enjoying using laboratory equipment as they develop their practical skills to investigate the properties of bubbles in science.

In Steam, Year 1 have enjoyed testing which shapes are strongest before moving on to designing and making vehicles. Year 3 have enjoyed the learning about prosthetics and making model fingers and Year 5 have been using their mathematical and creative skills to produce scale drawing and model possible drone shapes before embarking on their Leaders Award.



Learning Resources Centre

Our Librarians are doing a fantastic job of reading to the younger boys: they enjoy all aspects of the role especially using the computer. They have started to choose a *Book of the Week* for both the Lower and Upper School. Here are the favourites so far:

'Oblivion' by Anthony Horowitz chosen by Aaden

'Elmer' by David McKee chosen by Luke

'Skulduggery Pleasant' by Derek Landy chosen by Sachin

'The Pirate Mums' by Jodie Loret-Grant chosen by Zachy

Please take care of books that you borrow from the LRD and remember from January, any lost books will be charged for.



Halloween Pumpkin and Scary Monster Ootiboo Competition

All entries into the Gifted and Talented Halloween challenge were also entered into the external Ootiboo competition. Author Jack Meggitt-Phillips judged all 520 entries for this year's competition and Nolan (Year 1), Charlie (Year 2), and Rayhaan (Year 8) are all winners! This was an international competition with entries from children all over the world, so this is a fantastic achievement. Very well done, boys.



Nolan – Year 1



Charlie – Year 2



Rayhaan – Year 8

Homefield Art Gallery

Kenzo Year 4 – Pastel Flowers

