

HEADLINES

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Spring Term 2010 – January (1)

I extend my personal thanks and congratulations to boys, parents and staff for bearing up so stoically during the recent extended weather disruption.

The forecast for next week is promising. **Therefore, full normal service will be resumed. Boys should therefore revert to normal start and finish times, after school clubs, school uniform and minibus usage. The gas repairs in Western Road have also been completed and the drive will be available in the morning for “Stop and Drop”.**

The website banner has served as a very helpful information tool. **Should the weather once again deteriorate markedly please continue to refer to the banner before and during school each day.**

For my part, I am afraid that I now find the snow simply tedious! Nor did I ever think to be telling the Common Room, ‘Thank goodness it’s raining!’ The only comfort has been that I have been spared the daily burden of wearing my office suit!



Examinations

Boys in the 5th and Lower 6th Form will be continuing internal examinations next week. The examination programme has already been distributed and is also available to view on the school website. Parents, as usual, are reminded that the examinations provide an opportunity for practice and rehearsal. All positive and negative outcomes, therefore, should be kept in their proper perspective!

Clubs and Music Lessons

The full range of clubs and music lessons will be back in full operation throughout the school next week. Attached to this newsletter is the updated list of clubs and activities for the Spring Term. Parents are asked to refer carefully to the weekly calendar of events and music timetable for timings.

Calendar

A revised draft calendar, with revised fixture dates, will be issued to all boys at the end of next week. The Sports' staff are currently striving to reschedule matches cancelled due to the adverse weather conditions that have beset us all.

U4th form Parents' Consultation Evenings

The first of this term's parental consultation meetings takes place on Thursday from 4.30 – 7.00 pm for parents of boys in Upper 4H. The consultation meeting for parents of boys in Upper 4S takes place on Thursday 28th January. U4S boys will be bringing home an appointments' request letter today.

Early Years' Unit

The Nursery

The topic for this half term is 'Traditional and Fairy Tales. This week's focus is 'The Three Little Pigs' and 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs'.

We will be discussing the emotions and feeling of the book's characters, using ordinal numbers to count the seven dwarfs and investigating phonic 'd' in actions, songs and story.

If possible please bring in objects beginning with this sound. We shall also be investigating the recognition of numerals 0 – 10 and beyond.

Miss Kingsford, Mrs Muller and Mrs Evans

Transition

It's lovely to see all the boys at last after a disrupted start to the term. They all enjoyed their Christmas break but seem pleased to have returned to the routine of the school day.

Our topic for the first half term is 'Houses and Homes' and we have already been talking about our local area. We have found the school on 'Google Earth' and have also looked at globes, atlases and maps.

This week we are focusing on the Arctic and discussing the habitat, animal life and the weather.

In Literacy we will be making a flap book based on the story 'Polar Bear, Polar Bear what do you see?' We are also focusing on 'ch' and discussing descriptive words for arctic animals.

In Numeracy we will be ordering numbers 1 to 20 and finding missing numbers between 10 and 20. We are also making number bonds to five.

Mrs Whiteway and Miss Waddy

The Junior Department

It has been an interesting and exciting start to the new term with our boys making every effort to attend school. The boys have had great fun at playtimes, making the most of the field to build snowmen and enormous snowballs!

Last week we welcomed Cole Freigang into the 3rd year and he has already made many new friends.

The 2nd year outing to the Natural History Museum has been rescheduled to the 5th March when hopefully the weather will be much better!

Mrs J Gunningham

Music Exam success

Well done to the following boys:

Piano

Grade 1 Amir Shivdasani 3H

Violin

Grade 3 Malin Dekas (Distinction), Leo Lim (Merit)

Grade 1 Peter Nielan (Distinction), Jin Yi (Merit)

Initial Oscar Pikethly

Guitar

Grade 3 Taeon Park (Merit)

Grade 1 Zeb Bond (Distinction), Sebastian Callaghan (Merit)

Concert - Voces8

On Friday 22nd January, the Third Year will be performing in a joint concert with pupils of Manor Park School, Robin Hood School and the professional vocal ensemble - Voces8.

The performance will take place in the St Nicholas Centre, Level 3 at 1.30 - 2.15 pm and all parents are welcome to attend.

This concert is the culmination of a joint project that has been running since October in all three schools.

Music Visits

The more advanced members of the String Orchestra will be visiting Epsom College on Thursday 28th January, to take part in the first Epsom Strings Day and on Thursday 28th, the orchestra and HoJO players will be going to St John's, Leatherhead, for an orchestral Playday. I'd be grateful if boys could return the parental consent forms as soon as possible.

Stonebridge Music Courses

There are courses run by the IAPS for instrumentalists of all standards. These courses are great fun and intensive residential music making can really inspire the boys.

The groups are as follows:

- Choral Course – no audition required if recommended by Director of Music
- Jazz Course – open to all
- Junior Strings Grade 2-5
- Concert Band grade 4+
- Symphony Orchestra – Grade 5+
- Chamber Orchestra – Grade 7+

Most courses are in July except the choral course which is 6 – 11 April

Full details are obtainable from www.stonebridgemusic.co.uk or see me for a leaflet.

I would recommend these courses highly to any keen musicians.

Music Makers

Music Makers will be running their usual course at King's Wimbledon this year on July 12th – 16th.

There are 3 courses:

- Age 5-6 Open to anyone, no musical experience necessary
- Age 7-10 Open to anyone, no musical experience necessary or pre- Grade 2 instrumentalists
- Senior Course Players Grade 2 -8 (Orchestra, jazz groups improvisation etc)

Info www.musicmakers.co.uk or see me for a leaflet!

The Ballad of Salomon Pavey – An Elizabethan Ballad Opera

Auditions for boys.

As a major part of the International Youth Arts Festival in July, there will be an exciting drama project for boys interested in musical theatre at the wonderful new Rose Theatre in Kingston. The bulk of the roles in 'The Ballad of Salomon Pavey' are for boys aged between 10 -13. All the auditions and rehearsals take place at weekends and in the school holidays.

Auditions will take place at Shrewsbury House School, Surbiton, on 31st January and 6th February with recalls on the 7th February. For information and audition details please apply by email - jeremyjamestaylor@blueyonder.co.uk

Mr Andy Meyers

Teachsport

A reminder to parents that Teachsport will be running another sports' programme during the February half term from 9.30 am – 4.30 pm. The cost is £34.65 per day or £165 for a full week with a sibling discount of £24.00 per day or £110 for the full week. Further details are obtainable from the school office.