

# HEADLINES

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Spring Term 2011 – January (3)

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The arrival of the Spring Term has brought its familiar mix of hoar frost and snow-drops, but the boys and staff have continued to provide their own special warmth.



This morning the boys in Mrs Whiteway's Kingfishers' class regaled proud parents with the splendid tale of Shelley the tortoise who braved the sub-zero winter elements and ventured out for a walk.

This week, like Shelley, the Homefield boys and parents have also stoically made light of the chill! The Senior Boys have now completed their internal examinations; examinations and interviews to Senior Schools are now progressing very pleasingly; the rugby season has, once again, resumed; the Chess team, this evening, renews acquaintance with the Homefield Old Boys at King's College, Wimbledon, in the Bryant Poulter League; whilst, tomorrow the Homefield boys will again be raising the Homefield colours in the U9 and U12 sections of the Surrey Wey Valley Chess Championship. Last night saw the second instalment of the L4th form parents' evening when staff and parents were able to make each other's full and most productive acquaintance – and last week's short-lived parental attendance record also fell!

Next week's attractions include the Music Department's Orchestral Day at St John's on Thursday, further rugby fixtures across all age groups and a 5H Parents' evening on Thursday.

Like the snowdrops, the Homefield Spring Term is a time for renewal and regeneration. On Friday, the school continued its research at the Betts' Exhibition at Olympia into the ground-

breaking educational developments in the exciting world of ICT. In October, the Finance Office welcomed Mr Jones to his new appointment as Bursar. This term the school has further welcomed Mrs Cygan to the Finance Office and Miss Hartle and Miss Cook to the English Department. (News of a Middle School Drama production will follow very soon). The Homefield Association is also developing exciting ideas for the expenditure of its now burgeoning funds. (All may be ready to be revealed at the Homefield Association Quiz Evening which takes place on 24<sup>th</sup> February.)

Less happily, at Easter, and in September, the school will be bidding a sad farewell to Mr Moore and to Mr Dawson in their roles as Heads of Learning Support and Maths. Both Mr Moore and Mr Dawson have provided signal, long and cherished service to the school and will obviously be greatly missed. Advertisements for their posts appear in the TES and a number of other agencies and press settings this week. I wish everyone a warm cup of chill-repelling cheer!

## **The Homefield Association**

### **Quiz Night, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2012**

The next event on the Associations' calendar will be the annual Quiz night, on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February, held in the main school hall. Tickets for this extremely popular event are £11 per person. This includes Mr Graces' delicious fish and chip supper, followed by cheese and biscuits. The Quiz night is a super evening with a great atmosphere and we look forward to seeing you there.

Please see attached flyer for further information and ticket order form.

Kind regards

**Máire Colohan**

**Chairperson, Homefield Association**

**Email: [colohans@btinternet.com](mailto:colohans@btinternet.com)**

**07762 148 910**

## **Music**

### **Instruments**

Please ensure that all instruments are clearly named on the outside of the case. I have noticed that quite a lot of the instruments on the shelves are still anonymous. 'Os' will be awarded to senior boys with unnamed instruments after next week!

## **Sign2sing – Year 1 and 2**

On Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February, the boys in Year 1 and 2 will be taking part in a fundraising event for SignHealth. SignHealth is the healthcare charity dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of deaf people and achieving equal access to vital healthcare services. SignHealth relies entirely on donations and a small amount can make a lasting difference to the way deaf people are treated, and hopefully create a brighter future for deaf children.

Sign2sing is SignHealth's biggest fundraising event. In February 2011 thousands of children and adults gathered together to attempt to break the world record for the most number of people signing and singing at the same time. The record was well and truly broken with 94,489 people taking part!

Homefield boys will swell the number of participants in 2012 when they perform to reception and parents at 3.00pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February in the school hall.

## **St John's School – Orchestral Playday**

St John's School, Leatherhead, has invited instrumentalists to take part in the Orchestral Playday on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January. The orchestra has been growing over the past few years and so to keep the size manageable, a minimum performance standard of Grade 3 has been set for this year. However, such is the breadth of our instrumental talent that 22 boys are eligible to play.

The concert is at 7.00pm in the Music Department at St John's, Leatherhead (on the B2122 Epsom Road - postcode: KT22 8SP) Refreshments will be served for parents at in the Dining Hall at the end of the concert.

## **Music Exams**

Congratulations to the following boys who passed violin exams at the end of last term:

3H	Joe D'Mello	Initial Grade (Distinction)
RS	Ethan Thorne	(Merit)

## **Hamish's Lost Shoulder Rest**

If anyone has found a violin shoulder rest or has two in their violin case, please return one to Hamish Frost.

## **Senior Carol Concert CDs**

If anyone would like a CD of the Senior Carol Concert please email me ASAP as I will be running them off next week.

**Mr Andy Meyers**

## **Sport**

### **Swimming**

Please find application forms for lessons at the Otter Swimming Club at Sutton High School. Lessons recommence on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2012 when the pool re-opens following refurbishment.

### **Rugby**

#### **Colts 'B' team v The Mall**

The Colts 'B' team played their first fixture of the season and were unlucky to lose by the odd try against The Mall on Friday afternoon. At times the boys showed good qualities with both their support play and handling ability. In the backs the boys showed good running ability and passing with both Huw Shopland (2) and Jasdeep Dhingra scoring good tries. In the

forwards Harry Andre's strength rewarded him with two tries which was very encouraging. Huw Shopland also converted two of Homefield's tries with excellent drop kicks. If the boys can improve their tackling this is going to help the team as they move forward.

The Mall 32 Homefield 29

Team: Harry Andre, Haig Lucas, Leo Lim; Wasee Rahman, Samuel Smith, Shrey Sachdeva, Aditya Yanamandra, Huw Shopland (Capt.), Giles Winterbourne, Jasdeep Dhingra.

**Mr G Pearce**

#### **Junior Colts 'C' team rugby report v Willington**

Homefield's 'C' team put in an encouraging performance against Willington School and narrowly lost by 5 tries to 2. The difference in the teams were that Willington were running with more directness going forward to Homefield's longer running around the edges and sides. However, those definitely improved in the second half when Anish Patel scored two excellent tries with his fast and direct running towards the try line.

Homefield 2 Willington 5

Team: Antoni Viva, Jacob Trevithick, David Duroshola, Humza Saleem, Justin Lam, Zain Baig, Zakariya Lilani, Anish Patel, Omar Rahman, Logan Jopling, Qais Moti.

**Mr G Pearce**

#### **Early Years' Unit**

We have begun our season of class assemblies which will be taking place each month.

The first one this year was Kingfishers Class, who welcomed parents today and told the story 'Ridiculous', all about a tortoise going out in Winter! The boys always like performing to an audience and the parents showed their appreciation. Mr Grace provided coffee afterwards and all the parents managed to vacate the premises before our fire bells went for a drill!

The next class assembly will be for Eagle Owl parents on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

We have just arranged to visit Wisley with our Reception classes on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March. We will be sending out permission letters for the boys nearer to the time.

In our Friday Forum these boys in Reception were awarded Student of the Week:

In **Woodpeckers Class** the award went to **Ashton Jacobs** for beautiful handwriting in his writing book.

In **Kingfishers Class** it was given to **Jack Weekley** for taking a great interest in our topic 'Habitats'.

Nursery Star Awards were for:

In **Tawny Owls** it was given to **Jijith Thukaram** for being sociable and friendly.

In **Eagle Owls** the special award was given to **Edward Smith** for joining in well with retelling traditional tales.

**Mrs B Whiteway**

**Head of EYU**

## **Nursery**

This week is going to be a busy week for Nursery. We are going to be looking at the Traditional Tale of 'Jack and the Beanstalk', as well as celebrating and exploring Chinese New Year! We are going to be creating a castle in the role play area, and making our own castles with boxes and collage materials to help us retell the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.

In our celebrations of Chinese New Year, we will be exploring China, making Chinese lanterns, painting our own dragon masks and making up dragon dances in Music and Movement. We will even be tasting noodles using chopsticks!

- Our phonic this week is 'u'
- The shape table will be kept as rectangles

We look forward to a busy and exciting week.

**Mrs Evans and Miss Woodley**

## **Reception**

We hope all the Kingfisher parents enjoyed their son's class assembly. I think you'll all agree they were fantastic!



*Kingfishers assembly*

In Literacy this week we will be recapping all the sounds learnt so far and using them to read and write different words. We will also be learning a new tricky word, 'her'. We will be continuing to write captions and sentences relating to our topic and completing another page in our handwriting books.

In Numeracy this week we will be looking at number bonds to 5, continuing to practise our days of the week and months of the year. We will also be discussing which months our birthdays are in. The boys are enjoying learning about time and clocks so we will be introducing half past this week.

We will be looking at non-fiction books on China and discussing different cultures. We will also be talking about Chinese New Year and have lots of fun activities to do that relate to it.

**Mrs Whiteway and Miss Waddy**

## **The Junior Department**

### **The First Year**

We were delighted with the internet research that the boys undertook last weekend and it led to some interesting discussion. Well done boys! Thank you to Austin for bringing in some "goodies" to share in Chinese New Year celebrations. We hope the 'Year of the Dragon' is a good one for everyone! The boys have written letters to Ewan, and they are now on

their way to South Africa. We look forward to hearing how Ewan is getting on at his new school.

**Mrs Gunningham and Mrs Goodbody**

### **The Second Year**

The Second Year boys are enjoying the challenge of learning to sign a song for the fundraising event for SignHealth. A letter has been sent home with all the details. The £1 contribution can be sent in to us at any time.

The new group of swimmers have taken to the water with gusto and are enjoying their weekly lessons at Cheam Baths.

**Mrs Burgess and Mrs Connaughton**

### **The Third Year**

This week the boys have been poets. We have been writing Shape Poems. All the boys have enjoyed it and some have really let their imaginations run wild! Well done boys. All the boys in the Third Year would like to say a special thanks to Ms Thomas who gave us a DVD copy of our Christmas play 'The Animal and the Star!'

### **Homefield Heroes**

**1H Sean Pande** for his lovely descriptive writing about Jack Frost. Well done Sean!

**1S Sebastian Correa-Garma** for his lovely descriptive writing about Jack Frost. Well done Sebastian!

**2H Niam Patel** for working very hard on learning both spellings and x tables and gaining good consistent results. Well done.

**2S.Luca Fooks** for his thoughtful contribution to lessons. Well done.

**3H Abbas Abedi** for being such a helpful boy to his classmates and the teachers. Also keep up the hard work in Maths!

**3P Tife Sokan** for producing beautifully neat work.

**3S James Mendes and James Mercieca** for always being polite and helpful and for their conscientious attitude.

### **Other Certificates**

**1H Oliver Keen** – 3<sup>rd</sup> place medal for skiing race.

**1H Thomas Parry-Williams** – 2 medals for rugby.