

HEADLINES

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Autumn Term 2011 – October (3)

costume worn by Henry Pope. Because there were so many good costumes, there was a runner-up prize for Walfords 4. It was fun being a judge. Mrs White took photos of us in assembly and in our office.

Headmasters for the Day



Our two 'Headmasters', Bruno North and Thomas Jarrett, are deep in strategic planning with Ms White



Bruno and Thomas conduct an Estates inspection in the EYU

We, Headmasters, Bruno North and Thomas Jarrett, earned certificates today for being great Headmasters. We began the day by supervising parking and we updated the school notice board.

At the Senior Assembly we announced the **Head Boy, Jack Hopper**. We also announced the winning prize for the best costumes for Book Character Day in house groups. The winning tutor group was Bomfords 4 with an amazing Asterix

We then went to tour the school with Charlie King. Charlie used a special notebook to write things down about the school property that was cracked or broken.

We helped supervise Junior break. Then we had the Junior Assembly. Again, we helped judge the better costumes. The winners were Joshua Duroshola and Jayan Thiru. Joshua was dressed as Robin from Batman and Jayan as Peter Pan. We also said the end of assembly prayer.

We then had a meeting with Mrs White to discuss the Student Council topic of indoor and outdoor breaks. We suggested we could have T-Rex games, Lego and Connect 4 games for indoor breaks. For outdoor break we chose toy cars and planes.

We then reviewed the repairs manual with Charlie. We saw that he had to repair a hook for a fire marshall's coat.

Before lunch, we observed Mrs Gunningham's lesson with Year 1. It was great because we read books to the boys. I read 'Harry and the Dinosaurs'. The boys listened carefully.

After lunch, we visited the EYU and tidied up their playground after their break.

In the afternoon I wrote up the newsletter article as Thomas had to go and catch a plane.

At the end of the afternoon, I helped Mr Meyers with the Junior Hymn practice.

I have learnt that the Headmaster's job is very hard because he has to run up and down the school.

Today was fantastic!

Reporter: Bruno North



Bruno and Thomas in their Headmagisterial gowns

Today I have enjoyed the fruits of distributed leadership, beginning my half term early by offloading my responsibilities as Headmaster into the most capable hands of young Thomas Jarrett and Bruno North. The school has flourished under its new management and the staff and boys have worked with undiminished enthusiasm and vigour in a half term which has seen Senior Department Boys' Induction Days, a L4th form Next Schools' Information Evening, Parents' Evenings throughout the school, Assessment and Open Mornings, headmagisterial visits to six senior schools, boys' trips to St Albans, Butser Farm and Boulogne, soccer fixtures from U8 to U13, table tennis matches against Royal Russell and King's Wimbledon, an Epsom College Choral Day and a L6th form Shakespeare Festival Production of Julius Caesar. Boys have also had their individual photographs distributed for parental approval and Zac Gray has won The Independent Schools Guide Young Photographer of The Year Competition 2011.

The Homefield Association has been its usual hyper-active self, and will be staging a Fireworks Party, Westfield Shopping Trip, second hand uniform sale, coffee morning and Christmas Bazaar upon the school's return. Thanks are also extended to the Homefield family for its usual generosity with contributions to The Harvest Festival and sponsorship of The NSPCC. With the appointment of Mr Bryan Jones as School Bursar, internal planning is afoot to deliver a number of important improvements and school developments news of which will follow in due course. I join the Junior Department staff in the fervent hope that the fine weather will hold off the impending arctic conditions and wish all parents, staff and boys a balmy, restful and well-deserved half term.

Photographic Competition Winner

The Independent Schools Guide Young Photographer of The Year Competition 2011

On the 1st October 2011, I went to North London to collect my 'Young Photographer of the Year Award'. I could not believe

that I had won 1st place; I thought I would never have won it! Whilst I was in the car on the way to North London I was so excited and surprised that I had come right at the top against the whole of the UK.

When I got there I had to wait 30 minutes until they could start the prize giving. Eventually it started. They began with 3rd, 2nd then 1st. I went to collect my award from Catherine Walters and Marco Muscroft from Gabbitas; I had my picture taken with my prize and then sat back down. I asked my dad if I could open the award in the car and he said, 'Yes'. So we got back in the car and I opened it - it was a Sony Alpha a290 SLR camera and I have used it every day since. Two days later I begged my mum and dad if they could buy me better lenses for my new camera and they said, 'Wait for Christmas'.

Reporter: Zac Gray U4th

The presentation was held at The Independent Education Expo at Alexandra Palace on the 1st October and the competition was the Independent Schools Guide Young Photographer of the Year Competition 2011.

Below are a few quotes on how Zac felt to be judged the winner of this prestigious competition:

'The first I knew about winning the competition was when I was leaving school. One of the secretaries called out 'Well done!'. I didn't have a clue what she was talking about. Then my mum told me I'd come in first place. I was absolutely amazed'.



Zac receiving his prize

Zac's aspirations for photography are:

'I'd like to travel around the world taking photographs of things that I like, especially animals in action'.

Making use of his prize:

'I use the camera as often as I can and am already hoping to get new lenses for Christmas'.

Zac's parents thoughts and feelings about their son's achievement and about the prize award ceremony:

'We are absolutely delighted that Zac won the competition. He hasn't put the camera down since he won it. It's wonderful to see him so excited and inspired, he's already putting together a portfolio'.

'It was lovely to meet everyone at Gabbitas'.

Well done, Zac!



Zac's prize-winning photograph of Peter Neilan

The Homefield Association

It has been a busy start to the term for all on the Homefield Association planning various events and we are now looking forward to the next action packed half term, starting with

Fireworks Night, Friday 11th November 2011 (advance ticket order deadline 8th November)

Doors open at 6.00pm for hot food and refreshments, including a licensed bar. The boys will be excited to know that a range of glow products will be available to purchase, as well as Krispy Kreme doughnuts. The display itself commences at 7.30pm. Advance tickets cost £4 per adult and £3 per child. Tickets on the night are an additional £1 each. Tickets are non-refundable but in the event of severe weather or issues out of our control, the evening will be rescheduled for the following Friday, 18th November, and tickets purchased in advance are transferable. Advance ticket applications are available on the attached flyer or on the Homefield Association Notice Board.

Westfield, West London, Shopping Trip, Friday 18th November

This is our first joint Christmas Shopping trip with Sutton High 'Connections' to Westfield, West London

The coach departs from outside the Texaco garage, St James Road, Sutton, at 8.45am and will deliver you directly to the shopping centre. You are free until 2.00pm when the coach departs to ensure arrival back at St James Road for 3.15pm pick up. The price is a very reasonable £10.00 per person. Family and friends are also welcome. *Seats are limited and are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, so apply early to avoid disappointment.* See attached flyer for application form.

Traditional Christmas Puddings (order deadline 14th November)

These very popular puddings, available in 1lb and 2lb sizes, have a very light texture and taste delicious! They are made by the Ultimate Plum Pudding Company based in Cumbria, using a family recipe and the finest ingredients. The puddings taste so good; they have been recommended by Chef Magazine, BBC Good Food Magazine and won a Gold Award at the Great Taste Awards. A Chocolate pudding is available as an alternative, or in addition to the traditional plum pudding! The deadline for ordering these is Monday 14th November. See attached flyer for order details. *Orders will be available for collection at the Coffee morning, Friday 2nd December.*

Other dates for your diary ...**Coffee morning, Friday 2nd December**, to include a second hand uniform sale. **Christmas Bazaar on Friday 9th December.** Further details will follow at the beginning of next half term.

The Association would like to make everyone aware that our notice board is in the school hall on the left as you enter through the main doors. All upcoming events and items available to purchase, are on display with spare application forms. If you have any queries or suggestions, please feel free to contact us.

Wishing you all a relaxing break.

Máire Colohan

Chairperson, Homefield Association

Email: colohans@btinternet.com

07762 148 910

Individual School Photographs

These have now been distributed. Could all proofs and payments be returned to school by the **11th November** at the latest.

The Early Years' Unit

What a wide and varied range of costumes we were presented with for Book Character Day. All the boys looked wonderful and were very proud of themselves. Needless to say we had to remove some of the props they came with, swords, brooms, cutlasses, wands and even a horse for health and safety's sake! After such an exciting day we hope you have all have a relaxing half term holiday.

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

In Woodpeckers class the award went to **Zia Sayed** for always being such a happy boy.

In Kingfishers class it was given to **Micah Rodney** for working hard at every activity.

Nursery Star Awards were for:

Jijith Thukaram in Tawny Owls for always coming to school with a smile.

Tom Wakefield in Eagle Owls for joining in with more confidence.

Mrs B Whiteway
Head of EYU

The Nursery

Nursery First Steps

The boys in Nursery First Steps have all settled into school life at Homefield School extremely well.

This first half term our topic has been 'All About Us.' We have talked about our faces and bodies, what we look like and how tall we are. We labelled a paper cut-out body leading to some interesting results as to where certain parts of the body were! We also discussed size and measured ourselves – we will measure ourselves again at the end of the autumn term to see how much we've grown.

Thank you for sending in photographs of your families. The boys were able to share these with their friends, telling us who lives in their house and talking about members of their family. They were also used as a tool for number work as we counted and compared the number of people we could see in each photograph.

All the boys have enjoyed the cooking activities they have participated in this half term, especially those that involved tasting different foods. I was very pleased that they have been willing to try new and unfamiliar foods.

Nursery attended the whole school Harvest Festival assembly and were not daunted by the occasion even when it came to singing their harvest song to the rest of the school and staff along with the other Early Years boys.



The Early Years' Unit enthusiastically join in with our storyteller

The final week of the half term finished with a visit from a story teller and the boys dressing as a character from their favourite book for Book Character Day.

Hope you all have a fun half term break.

Mrs S Muller

Nursery Second Steps

All the boys in Owls have settled into the nursery very well. It has been lovely getting to know each other through the 'All About Us' topic this half term. The boys have particularly enjoyed using shapes to make their houses, drawing around themselves in the playground, a variety of cooking activities and getting to know the environment of the school. Making hedgehog bread rolls was more difficult than the boys expected, lots of muscles were needed for kneading the dough! We used our senses to smell, taste and look at different foods; everyone was willing to try something new.

The boys have been learning their phonic sounds and have now brought home a booklet to share with you. Nursery have been very busy looking for objects to match the sound we have learnt that week. Thank you for all the contributions for the phonic and colour table from home too.

The boys all looked fantastic in their book character costumes and enjoyed the storyteller's tales. Our topic next half term will be 'Colour and Light.'

We hope you all have a lovely holiday.

Mrs Evans and Miss Woodley

Reception

What a busy start to the new school year we have all had! I think it is safe to say that all the boys in Reception have settled in well and are experts with the new routine!

During the first half of the Autumn term the boys have enjoyed getting to know their new classmates and teachers. They have also enjoyed getting ready for Autumn by going on lovely walks, collecting crispy brown leaves and bringing in many conkers! We have recently had the pleasure of meeting Rob Parkinson, a professional storyteller. He performs to both children and adults, his stories come to life with the use of musical instruments.

In Literacy we have looked at many sounds using the Letters and Sounds programme. The boys have picked them up very quickly and started blending the letters to make simple high frequency words. They have also learnt some tricky words too.

We have started writing in our brand new writing books and using our journals for emergent writing.

In Numeracy the boys have shown us how clever they are at counting and forming their numbers to 10. We have looked at different heights and measured ourselves on our height charts. We have also looked at an analogue clock and discussed the different times we do certain things at school.

We hope you have a lovely rest and see you all in November ready for Christmas preparations!!

Mrs Whiteway and Miss Waddy

The Junior Department

This half term has been action packed, and all the boys have settled well into their new classes. The mild weather has meant that we have been able to play on the field a lot and let's hope that we are not plunged into the arctic conditions of last year, before we reach the end of term!

This week the staff have enjoyed meeting all the parents and the boys have been very enthusiastic about a visit from the author Rob Parkinson. We hope everyone enjoys a well earned rest and we look forward to everything that will be happening after half term.



Rob Parkinson bringing stories to life through song

The First Year

It has been a great start to the academic year and we are delighted with the way that the boys have settled into life in the Junior Department.

We are sending home some handwriting sheets for the boys to do some practice over half term, along with a piece of practical mathematics work. In our Science lessons next half term, our focus will be sound. If any boy would like to experiment making their own musical instrument, this would greatly enhance our learning. Shakers are fun and easy to make!

After half term, we will be sending home some simple spellings on Fridays for the boys to learn each week, for a test the following Thursday. Please could you ensure that your son has his book in school every Thursday. Thank you.

Have a lovely half term – we look forward to hearing all about what the boys have been doing, when we return.

Mrs Goodbody and Mrs Gunningham

The Second Year

It has been a busy first half term for our boys in Year 2.

September seems a long time ago and new routines, high expectations and very full days probably mean our boys are ready for their half-term break. As reported at parents' evening, the boys are all making good progress.

The science topic this half term has been "Space". Clearly stimulated by the topic, many boys have undertaken research at home using the Internet and books. Thank you for all your support in encouraging your son to extend his knowledge which he could then share with us.

The history topic, Explorers will be continuing after the break. We are eagerly anticipating our visit to the Golden Hinde on the 10th November. The boys should have a great time learning about life aboard a sailing ship from a "Tudor sailor" and the visit will beautifully complement our studies.

Both classes have successfully presented an assembly to the Junior Department which was good preparation for future performances in front of a large audience. The Christmas production is already in our sights!

All the boys enjoyed the visit by the story teller Rob Parkinson for Book Week and many boys purchased new books in the Book Sale. We were delighted with the effort made by the boys to dress up as a book character on Book Character Day.

After school clubs are in full swing now and the boys are really enjoying their extra activities.

Have a good break boys and be safe whatever you do. See you in November.

Mrs Burgess and Mrs Connaughton

The Third Year

After such a busy and, for them a lengthened school day, the third year boys are looking forward to the half-term break. All the boys seem to have accommodated to the changes really well and settled quickly into their busy and structured day. An early morning obsession appears to study the timetable! It was really useful to meet with parents this week and share our thoughts on the boys' progress.

We were delighted to welcome eleven new boys to the Third Year this September. Our new boys are Kaul Keaton, Kieran Satheesan, Eshan Saund, Marwan Abdel-Razek, Hamza Mahfouz, Pradyumn Thakur, Zain Ahmad, Jay Evemy and Theo Murray-Smith. They have all settled in beautifully and are enjoying their first half term at Homefield.

This half term has been busy, in and out of the classroom and on the sports field. In Games lessons the boys have really enjoyed playing house football matches against each other. Each boy has improved his team work and skills.

3P have been swimming this term and have made great progress. It is a wonderful way to spend Friday afternoons. We may have a future David Walliams in our midst (without the Thames Tummy though). 3P will be swimming until the beginning of December.

This half term, the science topic has been "skeletons and movement". Clearly fascinated by the topic, many boys have undertaken further research at home using the Internet and acquired models and books! I think we must have many budding doctors amongst these chaps!

They boys have all thoroughly enjoyed the geography topic and are mastering the skills of map work whilst developing their knowledge and understanding of alternative lifestyles in India.

The boys adored hearing the stories and songs by Rob Parkinson this week, proving that the oral tradition is still as

valuable and loved in our technical age as ever. Please ask your son about 'The King Who Has Donkey Ears'! In English we have learnt a poem, 'Can you still recite Cats?' We have also retold the story of 'Esio Trot' as a cartoon. We have created amazing characters for a story and dreamed of amazing gardens. Remember to keep reading over the holiday! The clubs have proved to be popular with the third years with a faithful band of attendees. All boys are welcome to try out the clubs provided by the staff for their year group. Have a safe and happy half term. Enjoy your two weeks off. We look forward to seeing you on the 1st of November, ready for a bumper half-term as we snowball towards Christmas.

Mrs Dawson, Mrs Lyndham and Mr Medley

Homefield Heroes

1H Gus McGeachin for making a great effort with his joined up handwriting. Well done, Gus!

1S George Liddle for trying very hard and making great progress with his reading. Well done, George!

2H Bryn Craske for always working your best and using your time well.

2S Jayan Thiru for being a good citizen and always putting a good effort into his work.

3H Shafi Hussain for being a helpful and enthusiastic boy in all your lessons. You are also so well-mannered.

3P Kheyana Patel For putting his heart and soul into everything he does.

3S James Vasndrau for enthusiasm and sound progress in Maths. Well done!

Charity Report

As is often the case, the first half of the Autumn term is all about gearing up for the rest of the year. However, our charitable initiatives this year have started with the NSPCC sponsored events. The boys were given a talk by Gill Packer about the work of the NSPCC and the boys were then encouraged to get sponsorship to undertake one of a selection of physical activities. The school ran a number of sessions in which the boys could complete as many of their chosen activities in five minutes.

The first wave of sponsor money was collected on Tuesday 18th October. However, Gill will be returning to school after half term to award more badges and to say a special thank you. If you have not yet returned your forms and money, then please do so as soon after the holiday as possible. Hopefully, we will be able to celebrate the donation of a significant amount. I have just heard that so far we have managed to raise £1279.38, a fabulous start!

Our Harvest Festival assembly was enjoyed by the whole school this year and I was delighted that we were able to support our customary charities; Sutton Welcare and Sutton Homestart, especially as these two very worthy organisations are coming under increasing pressure due to Local Government funding restrictions.

Poppies will be on sale on our return from half term and at the Firework evening on the 11th November, so I would ask the boys to bring in money to buy their poppy..

We will also be announcing the short-listed charities that the boys will be supporting for the rest of the year.

Boys are continuing to collect shoes for the 'Better Life Foundation' that supports people in Sierra Leone.

I would also like to take this opportunity to inform you that a number of computers, books and stationery have been sent to Angola. If parents have any suitable children's books or packs of pens and pencils they would be gratefully received. Our thanks as always for your generosity and support. Best wishes for an enjoyable break.

Mr M Till

Charitable Endeavour - Update on Kilimanjaro:

Matthew Frost (Hamish's Dad L4H) has now completed his training climb of a smaller mountain in Tanzania and is now at the start of the BIG CLIMB up KILIMANJARO. If you would like to encourage him and support him in his fundraising for his sister's charity, (CRASAC), please click on the <http://www.charitygiving.co.uk/matthewfrost>

Many thanks for your support.

Music

The first half of the Autumn Term is a relatively calm time for the Music Department. In the classroom, the older boys have been busy composing carols for the Christmas performance and incidental music for 'The Billy Goats Gruff'.. The Upper 4s have been working at keyboard activities and the 3rd and Lower four boys have been practicing their recorder playing. The 3rd year boys should have now passed the most painful stage and most boys can play a recognisable tune!

The Wind Band have learned the 'Theme to the Muppet Show', HoJO, 'Cantaloupe Island' by Chick Corea, String Orchestra, 'What a Sunny Day' and the School Orchestra has mastered a Haydn Minuet.

Sixty-three Lower 4 pupils sang at the Epsom College Prep Schools' Choral Day and a number of boys have attended weekend orchestral days at Trinity and Whitgift schools.



Epsom Choral Day

Preparations for Christmas start after half term – please put the appropriate date in your diaries.

Nursery	Monday 5 th December 9.15 School Hall
Reception	Monday 5 th December 2.15 School Hall
Junior Department	Thursday 8 th December 2.30 School Hall
Senior Department	Wednesday 14 th December 6.30 Trinity Church.

Please note all senior boys are expected to perform at the Christmas Carol Concert. Please let me know if your son cannot attend.

Music Timetable

The music timetable is always available on the web site, in the music information section. The music information section can be found by clicking 'Homefield Parents' on the front page. Details of trips and resources such as word sheets are also posted in this section

Pizz Strings

Rehearsals with this string group, now to be taken by Mrs Blunden will start on Wednesday 9th November 1.30 – 2pm. Initially players involved will be:

Joe D'Mello 3H
Gabriel Cotton 3S
Ra'id Lilani 3S
James Mendes 3S
David Duroshola L4H
Rhys Evans-Ellis L4H
Theo Saitch L4H
Rohith Ratnam L4P
Anish Patel L4S

National Youth Music Theatre

The National Youth Music Theatre are looking for outstanding actors, singers, dancers, musicians, designers, stage crew and technicians for 'Songs for a New World', directed by Sarah Redmond, The Bridewell Theatre, London on the 31st July to the 4th August.

'13 the Musical'

**West End Première*

Directed by **Jason Robert Brown**, The Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, 22nd – 25th August 2012. Auditions take place on the 7th, 15th January and the 4th and 5th February. Please see the website for further details www.nytm.org.uk.

Mr A Meyers

Learning Resources Centre

Book Week

The boys in the Senior Department had a really good time with Alex Keller (the author of 'Haywired' and 'Rewired') on Monday. All the boys participated in a creative writing workshop and produced some great storytales. Alex was available to sign books at the end of the day and many boys bought the books.



Author Alex Keller meets boys in the Senior Department

Rob Parkinson visited on Wednesday and entertained the boys in the Early Years Unit and Juniors with storytelling, songs and poems. Rob had a huge collection of musical instruments and the boys loved participating in the songs. Some of the boys bought a book at the end of the day, the rest of the boys will receive their books after halfterm.



Rob Parkinson entertains boys in the Junior Department

We all had a fun time on Book Character Day. The boy's costumes were fantastic and very creative throughout the whole school.



Creative costuming!



The Smurfs come to Homefield



A huge array of characters and costumes



A great, fun day!

Mrs K Merryman

Drama

Homefield performed Julius Caesar at the Schools Shakespeare Festival at the Leatherhead Theatre on Saturday 15th October, as one of four plays that included *Romeo and Juliet*, *Hamlet* and *Much Ado about Nothing*.

Jonnie Marsh did not rest on his golden laurels and gave a really impressive and authoritative performance. Prashast Vir was also hugely impressive as Mark Antony, with a very real stage presence and no nerves! Mitchell Jenkins was very persuasive as the murderous Decius. Jamie Lynch was a very able Cinna the Conspirator. Alex Peachey was refreshingly abrasive as the impolite and unpleasant Casca. Ben Forsdick was an excellent Cassius and dominated the stage even when he standing still and without saying anything. Anand Patel was really good as Brutus, persuading Cassius so successfully that the conspirators are all forced to commit suicide and everything is lost!

All these were intelligent performances that showed the actors understood their characters and could act!

Malin Dekas was both a good solid Narrator One and when he doubled up as Strato. Tobi Oluwa-Dahusi had a commanding presence and very pleasant voice as Narrator Two.

George Mercieca, George Hopkins, Ravi Nair and Archie Otley were, luckily, extremely badly-behaved as four murderers and rioters in their roles of Plebeians One to Four. Congratulations to Sam Gurney who looked very frightened as their victim, Cinna the Poet. He showed he knew that ninety percent of acting is really acting!

Ash Sood was, as in everything he does, very solid and reliable as Octavius Caesar and his messenger. Ali Janjua was an able Messala. Well done!

Heartiest congratulations to Tejas Patel for his roles as Conspirator, Senator One and Pindarus. His killing of Cassius with a short sword was particularly impressive.

Matthew Laws was a suitably doom laden and threatening Soothsayer: Beware the Ides of March, etc. Jimmy O'Brien was really good as Calpurnia and was a good sport to take on a female role in a boys' school. Joseph Collar looked like a Roman in his toga and impressed all with his short knife work on Caesar. Sean Lee was a very able Lucius.

Congratulations to Jaimin Patel for running a superbly efficient props department!

This performance never once needed the services of the Prompter. Well done!

Mr M Brett



We are currently installing new frames around the school to display some of the brilliant work the boys produce!



The department has just unwrapped its new vac-forming machine!



The kiln is running around the clock at present. Some of you may be getting ceramics under the tree this Christmas!



3H have been working as a team to collage this enormous racing car!

French

Every pupil in the school has been learning French this term, starting from the nursery class who have learnt French nursery rhymes with Mme Quayle.

The senior boys have been enjoying the new revamped schemes of work, with increased cultural, cross-curricular, speaking and singing elements!

Mr Soltysik has been running a French clinic club on Thursday lunch times, and I have been running an advanced speaking club on Friday lunch times, as well as two French U6th clubs, one on Thursday lunch time and one on Tuesdays after school, from 4pm to 5pm.

The highlights of this half-term have been the visit of the U6th French pen-friends; 25 pupils of the Collège Pharamond Savary, Gouzeaucourt, spent 3 days with us. They visited the school, took part in lessons and enjoyed our school lunch. They also visited sites in London, Dover and Canterbury. The L6th are looking forward to their turn to visit Gouzeaucourt and Paris next Summer.



Our French visitors enjoy life at Homefield

The second highlight has been the 5th form trip to Boulogne sur Mer and Audinghen on 14th October. Please read the reports by Ben Andrews, Vivek Desai and Joel Goodman below.

Mandarin: should there be a sufficient number of boys interested, from Year 3 or above, we could organise a Mandarin club for beginners. If interested, please contact me.

Have a good half-term break! For anyone wanted to do a little extra French, don't forget to visit the atantot website, using the passwords super – 2233, for fun speaking, listening, reading and vocabulary practice.

Sabine White



My Trip to France

I woke up to my alarm at 4:30 in the morning in order to get to school by 5:40 for an educational and fun trip to France. I got dressed, quite excited about the trip and met Giles's mum near our house and we drove off to school. Then when we reached school we got on the coach and drove off on the long journey to Dover. It was very dark at that time and we all were feeling sleepy. I sat next to Shrey and Fahd and we played games like memory games or the alphabet game with countries and cities. As we approached Dover I saw all of the cliffs and we discussed which group we would be in when we had our free time on the ferry to Calais. We all cheered as our coach drove into the parking bay on the ferry and we all said "HELLO FRANCE!" really loudly. The teachers that came on the trip were: Mrs. White, Mr. Dawkins, Mr. Soltysik and Mr. Till.

On the ferry we got into our groups and went off to kill our time on the ferry. I was with Fahd, Shrey and Adi. First we all went to the map to search for the arcade. The first thing I bought was a bag of chocolates to share while we roamed around. When we entered the arcade it was packed full of people on gun games to racing games. I first went on the racing game against Shrey. He came 29th and I came 23rd. We then went to buy something in the shop. They had lots of good books but they were really expensive, but you couldn't expect something cheap.

When we met up back at the meeting place, the teachers did a head count and told us to go away again. We looked out of the many windows on the ferry and could just see France in the distance. Our teachers told us that there had been industrial strikes in the port so we had to wait half an hour longer. When we drove off in France I thought we were still in England! You had to look closely to see the things which were different. We first drove to Boulogne along the coast to the Nausicaa aquarium where we saw lots of fishes and penguins. They had a seal tank as well as a shark tank. They had a short video about the damage to the sea we do every year like throwing waste products into the sea and the oil spillages that sometimes occur and the damage it does to the wildlife.

After the aquarium we went to have our lunch in the old town of Boulogne. The street was cobbled and the cars were not allowed to drive through the street. For lunch I had chicken with chips and a bit of salad. Many people ordered fish which was not covered in sauce but ended up regretting it as they saw it was flatfish which still had the bones in! After having our appetising lunch (for some) we drove to an old German bunker. They had a stupendously massive cannon which could fire shells across the English Channel in order to bomb Britain. They had a museum inside and I nearly fainted when I saw the amount of small plane models and guns they had. As we commenced we saw how a soldier would have lived. They also had bombs which obviously had been neutralized. I bought a plane kit from the shop.

We then went to the supermarket. We spent 15 minutes looking through the aisles trying to find something good. I ended up buying some mentos, two hot wheels cars and some biscuits which I thought were French but turned out to be Dutch! I wasn't the only mad person there though. One person bought three packs of croissants and one person bought five packs of gum! Also one person bought cheese that smelt horrible.

We went out of the supermarket and drove back to Calais and got on the ferry back. We spent five minutes munching crisps then my group set off to do some game playing. When we finally left the ferry we all shouted "HELLO ENGLAND!" and

we made out final journey back to school. During the journey I thought back on the day and remembered how much fun it was and the excitement of it all. I still wish we could go back to France again. When we arrived back at school we got our passports and went home with our parents at 9:00 in the evening.

Reporter: Vivek Desai 5th form

Boulogne

Early on the 14th October all of the 5th form met at school at 5.45am. We were excited to be going to Boulogne in France for the day.

We spent three hours on the coach travelling to Dover and then had a smooth ferry journey to Calais. After a short coach trip we arrived in the modern town of Boulogne, at the marine centre called Nausicaa.

We watched a ten minute 4D film about fish which were separated by a storm and looked at various islands and environmental issues associated with them. It was fun as we had water squirted at us.

We then split up into groups and walked around the aquarium seeing all sorts of different kinds of jellyfish, sea horses, sharks, turtles, crocodiles, stingrays and one gigantic octopus. Each arm of the Octopus was about the height of a Mini Cooper.

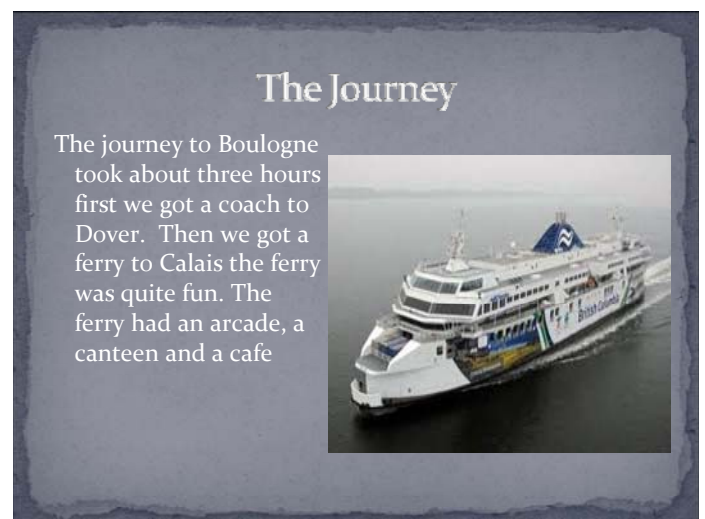
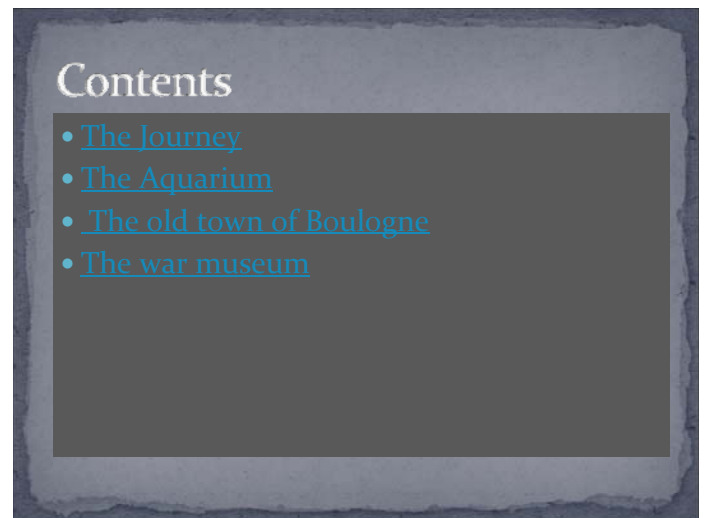
After a short coach trip, we walked around the wall of the old town of Boulogne where we walked around the fortress. We went through a huge old gate and then had a delicious meal at a French restaurant.

After the meal we travelled to a German bunker. On the way we saw several little air raid shelters which were scattered everywhere in the country side. As soon as we got to the huge German bunker we went up the gigantic gun which would have blown huge shells over the English Channel, which would have hit Dover. When we went into the bunker we saw artilleries such as a gun mounted onto a half tank-half motorbike.

We also saw some of the rooms such as the officer room, the weaponry and the bedroom in which the German soldiers would have slept. Apparently, in the German bunker there would have been 18 men sharing four rooms.

After a quick look at the gift shop, we headed to a shop where lots of people bought food and sweets which you can't buy in England. We then headed back to England on the ferry. We arrived back at school at around 9.00pm after a fantastic day in Boulogne, France.

Reporter: Joel Goodman



The nausicaá Aquarium



At the nausicaá aquarium we went round the aquarium. We saw sharks fish and penguins of all shapes and sizes. from lots of different angles



Activity Days Thames Young Mariners



The old town of Boulogne



We had lunch at a restaurant in Boulogne. There was a choice of chicken, steak e.t.c and for drink there was a choice of coke, lemonade, orange juice and water



The war museum



In the afternoon we went to a war museum. We saw a cannon that fired all the way to Dover. We also saw guns, knives, jeeps with guns on. We also learned that a man survived when he was shot in the heart but a cigarette packet saved his life. Then we returned home to England



I really enjoyed the trip on the 30th September but my favourite activity were the team challenges. My favourite activity of all was the 'crate challenge'. In this activity we had to throw the crates on the grass. The last person had to pick up the last crate and pass it on until the first person received it. He then had to throw it on the ground and step on it. The open canoeing was awesome! I learnt about how to work as a team successfully and how to paddle a canoe. I also learnt how to build a raft. I also learnt some more names and most of all enjoyment!

Reporter: Pranav Pandey L4th

Raft building was the second best thing because when we got into the water it came to about waist height and the sand felt like sinking sand. When we got into the boat we did tug-of-war and had two races. Open canoe was the best because we played games and had to use a lot of communicating and team work.

Reporter: Rhome Jacquart L4th

I really enjoyed the trip to Thames Young Mariners. My favourite bit was kayaking because I first was a bit scared of getting wet but then I fell in and I kind of liked it! My trip made me learn about team work, fitness, new skills, getting to know others better, trusting each other, enjoyment, confidence and trying new things.

Reporter: Raul Malad L4th

Presentation by Ben Andrews

Butser Ancient Farm

On Wednesday 28th September, the whole of the Lower 4th form went to Butser Ancient Farm. We all learned loads and loads about the Celts.

Firstly, we all went into a huge Celtic roundhouse. One of the staff at Butser Ancient Farm gave us a speech on how the Celts lived their daily life. We also learnt to make tools and weapons out of iron.

Then, we all wove a wattle fence. We wove it with thin and flexible willow tree branches. Exactly like sewing, we wove it in and out, in and out. It was way harder than it looked. You had to have real strength to do this activity. It was brilliant fun. We also made 'daub'.

Afterwards, we crushed chalk with a hammer. We crushed chalk on top of a log. The hammer was rather heavy. We took a handfull of chalk and kept on crushing!

Next, we had our lunch which was scrumptious!

We then did an archeological dig where we used trowels to dig. I found lots of tiles and pottery.

Finally, we went to the gift shop and bought some absolutely fantastic things. It was brilliant!

I thought the trip was great. I'd love to be a Celt!

Reporter: Adam Choudhury L4

Visit by Andrew Cooney – Polar Explorer



We were delighted to welcome back Andrew Cooney, our prize-giving guest from last term, who came to talk to boys throughout the school about his marvelous polar adventures.

Andrew Cooney came to Homefield to tell us about how, when he was only 23 years old, he became the youngest person to have walked to the South Pole. He walked 700 miles in 53 days across snow and ice in temperatures as low as minus 52 degrees. He suffered altitude sickness due to his journey taking place more than 9000 feet above sea level.

Firstly, Andrew showed us a slide show of his adventure. He told us that just before he was due to set out, one of his sponsors dropped out which meant a shortfall of money (approximately £3000). Luckily enough for him, his parents scraped together the money to enable him to go.

Then he began to tell us how he had prepared for this by pulling a lorry tyre round his local fields. He had to raise sponsorship and asked for people's support to aid his trip. He asked a local chocolate factory near his home to donate money. They declined but supplied him with toffee bars for his trip. He

had many supporters in the Territorial Army and friends from his University days.

Andrew even hid a Christmas cake in his sledge which increased his weight that he had to drag. He insisted that his fellow trekkers could only enter his tent for cake if they had brought a tie to wear and Christmas decorations – which people ended up making out of paper.

The funniest thing that happened was his friend Mark's hat blew off in the wind. Two of his mates ran after it but the wind just carried it away. Eventually they gave up only for the wind to change direct and blow the hat back towards them!

Reporter: Matthew Scott U4

We learnt lots of things from Andrew Cooney. He taught us how to build a tent and how to cook with a gas can, gas pumper, portable stove, dried food, a kettle, bowl and spoon. To save weight on Andrew's expedition, he and his friends even cut the cutlery in half! We had a chance to go in a survival tent which accommodates four people. All the expedition clothes were big and thick. Andrew and his team wore four to five pairs of gloves at any one time as well as several layers of trousers.

Reporter: Stephen Banh U4

Sport

Football

Under 8s Football v Hazelwood Hawthorns and Aberdour

Year 3 boys in the A B, C and D teams had lots of mini football matches against Hawthorns, Hazelwood and Aberdour on Thursday afternoon. It was the boys' second games of the year and they all showed good effort throughout. The highlight of the afternoon was the 'D' team's victory over Hawthorns by 1-0 with Jamie Otehtubi scoring Homefield's winning goal. Callum Jopling was the 'A' teams goal-scorer in their 3-1 defeat over Hawthorns. Sahil Kohli continued his goal scoring in the 'C' team defeat against Hawthorns.

The results and goal scorers are listed below.

'A' Team v Aberdour	Lost 1-0
'A' Team v Hazelwood	Lost 2-0
'A' Team v Hawthorns	Lost 3-1

Callum Jopling - fine shot on goal.

'B' Team v Aberdour	Drew 0-0
'B' Team v Hazelwood	Lost 2-0
'B' Team v Hawthorns	Lost 3-0

The 'C' team played a longer game against Hawthorns and lost by 4-1.

Sahil Kohli was again, the goal-scorer for Homefield.

'D' Team v Aberdour	Drew 0-0
'D' Team v Hazelwood	Lost 3-0
'D' Team v Hawthorns	Won 1-0

Jamie Otehtubi scored Homefield's winning goal.

Many thanks to the teachers and sports staff for their valuable help.

Mr G Pearce

U9 Football

The Homefield 'A' team defeated Feltonfleet 1-0 thanks to a neat strike from Carter Edwards.

In their second match, against Eagle House, Homefield struggled to convert superior possession into goals. A lapse of concentration in defence allowed the opposition to take the lead. HPS fought hard for an equaliser and it was Carter Edwards who found the net from long range. Time was against Homefield as they looked for the winner, the match ending 1-1.

The 'B' team had plenty of chances but had apparently left their shooting boots on the bus! They lost narrowly 1-0 to both Feltonfleet and Eagle House.

The 'C' team earned a 1-1 draw with Feltonfleet thanks to a goal from Angus Norman. They went one better against Eagle House, winning 2-0, with Angus Norman and Qais Moti on the scoresheet.

Mr E Judd

U10 v Lanesborough

On a very windy Tuesday 18th October, the A team blew their chances of three wins in a row! In all seriousness the Homefield boys lacked any resemblance to the team that thrashed Willington two weeks ago. Lanesborough dominated the early play and deserved their one nil lead at half time. Cole Friegang and Ademola Lewis put in some strong challenges in the second half and Alex Davies was solid in defence, which led to some belief in their ability and two corners that nearly produced a home team goal. Rahul Desai turned neatly to beat his defender and rifled the ball against the cross bar and Arun Subramaniam just missed the rebound.

Mr Matthews had strongly encouraged his team to show some more commitment at half time and the Homefield boys did lift their game. However, Lanesborough put together a five pass move and scored their second goal with ten minutes to go. Sam Heape pulled off a very good save to deny the opposition captain and the final whistle went before Homefield could really mount a goal scoring effort. The boys were quiet on the pitch and I hope they will get the opportunity to watch some live football games during the half term break to understand the need for greater communication. A good second half display but a disappointing result.

The team were as follows:

Sam Heape (GK), Tom Bradshaw, Olamide Ogunnaike, Theo Brown, Alex Davies, Arun Subramaniam, Cole Freigang, Rahul Desai and Ademola Lewis.

The U10 'B' team were victorious against Lanesborough and used the extremely windy conditions to their favour. An own goal was conceded by Lanesborough when Noah Yamin whipped in a fantastic cross that the opposition defence could not deal with. Noah played very well on the wing and the accuracy and velocity of his crossing of the ball has increased considerably. Daniel Cronje scored a well worked goal to take Homefield in to a two goal lead when he latched onto a thumping shot by William Gurney. Shiv Rana again pulled off some super saves to keep the score line positive for the home team. Oliver Zonfrillo worked tirelessly in midfield the whole match and will receive a call up to the 'A' team.

Well done boys: Shiv Rana (GK), Daniel Cronje, Sam Martin, Oliver Zonfrillo, Hassan Mahfouz, Noah Yamin, Dylan Brodie and William Gurney.

The 'C' team worked extremely hard away from home and after a long journey, managed to secure a fantastic 2-0 victory. Matthew Scott managed to latch on to a super through ball and Yusuf Saleem once again scored the winner with a calm and controlled finish. Well done boys: Naveen Dhar (GK), Nathan Addy-Walker, Ruzza Sheikh, Yusuf Saleem, Matthew Scott, Nikan Panjeshahi, Zac Gray and Stephen Banh.

Mr D Matthews

Under 10 'D' v Lanesborough.

Homefield's 'D' team had a convincing win over Lanesborough on Tuesday afternoon. Homefield won by 8-0, with most of the boys finding the net. With a bigger squad to choose from all the boys were rotated around and adjusted well to new positions. The boys again showed good effort and were determined to win most of the loose balls.

Full Time Lanesborough 0 Homefield 8.

Goal scorers: Peter Nielan (2), Thomas Mercieca (2), Oliver Callaghan, Harry Messant, Kier Dawson and Kian Hammed.

Well done to all the boys on a very good performance.

Team: Sam Warren, Harry Messant, Oliver Callaghan, Kier Dawson, Thomas Mercieca, Kian Hammed and Peter Nielan.

Mr Pearce

Homefield 1st XI v Chinthurst

Homefield's 1st XI's posted their second victory of the season with a hard earned victory over Chinthurst. Homefield had an early chance to take the lead with Sean Watters who was clear on goal but shot wide. Sean made up for the early miss when he chased a long ball forward to score from close range.

Most of the first half Homefield were merely spectators, watching their opponents play neat tidy football. It was no surprise when Chinthurst drew level after the hesitant defence failed to clear the danger.

Half time 1- 1

After a 'pep' talk at half time, Homefield's response was excellent. The boys showed effort, desire and the willingness to make strong tackles. Sean Watters soon scored his second goal, latching onto Arran Brodie's fine pass to score. It was soon three, Jack Hopper's long range shot flying into the roof of the net. Homefield had further chances to score, Dani Aksentic was denied his first goal by the woodwork and Ben Higgs had his header cleared off the goal line. Sean scored his hat-trick late on, neatly slotting his shot into the corner of the net. Chinthurst did pull a goal back, when again the Homefield defence thought the ball was going out before the ball ended up in the Homefield net. It was good to see Stephan Birahinduka back in school and supporting the team from the touchline.

Full time score:- Homefield 4 Chinthurst 2

Sean Watters (3) Jack Hopper

Team: J O'Brien, A Sood, H Goddard, S Saleem, Y Moizuddin, A Bragg, A Brodie, J Hopper (Capt.), B Higgs, S Watters, D Aksentic, Subs P Vir.

Mr Pearce

2nd XI Football Report

It has been a season of rather mixed fortunes so far. We suffered an only goal defeat to Hawthorns in a see-saw match when a draw had been deserved. Our next game was a mismatch against Aberdour's 1st XI, in which we put in an excellent first half performance before conceding five goals late in the game. Sam Gurney had a superb game in goal before we were over-run.

Our season hit a high note in Bushy Park, where we outplayed the Mall to win by a single Niall Kavanagh goal from Miran Saeed's corner. The trip to Tadworth C.C. for a match against Chinthurst saw a more confident team emerge from the minibus. However, their goalie was brilliant and made a series of tremendous saves before finally conceding a consolation goal to Archie Otley in a 1-5 defeat.

The back four has played well as a unit, but Prashast Vir moving up to the first team has disrupted it. Milan Andesilic replaced him alongside William Rees, George Henning and Archie. In midfield, Captain Jasper Pittam has impressed at times, along with Max Ruggeri, Tobi Oluwa-Dahunsi and the very effective Sam Sterling. The attack has seen Miran, Sam Duroshola and Niall. We hope to increase our goal tally after half term in the match at Cumnor House.

Mr R Strong

Squash

We are coming to the end of half term already and I am pleased to say my squash boys are entering the squash season positively. Over the past couple of weeks we have concentrated on match play to position the boys for team play against other schools in the very near future. Our match play has included marking along with refereeing to make the boys confident on and off court. Each candidate has progressed at his own level and so far it is still early days especially for the new recruits this term. Well done to you all but no time to slow down!

The Under 12s and Under 13s team will be announced the first week back after half term and the dates for matches are listed below:

- 11th November 2011 away U12s v Trinity
- 18th November 2011 away U13s v Trinity
- 25th November 2011 away U13s v City of Freeman

If there is an interest for a new recruit there are only a couple of spaces left on a Wednesday afternoon.

Well done to Ali Janjua who is now playing for the Surrey squash squad.

Natalie Le Serve-Ort

Squash Coach

Ski Trip

I have 3 places left for the school ski trip to the Haut-Lac International Centre in the Gstaad region of Switzerland. We will travel on Friday 10th February, and return the following weekend. The cost of the holiday will be £965. This will include a return coach journey to Switzerland, full board, hire of skis, boots and helmet, six full days ski tuition, a wide range of evening entertainment and insurance. The holiday is only open to boys in the Upper 4th and above. If you would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact me michael.mallett@homefield.sutton.sch.uk

Mr M Mallett

Table Tennis

The Under 11 team have had 2 fixtures. They successfully beat King's College Junior Sschool 8-2 in a league match. This was the boys' first competitive school match and, therefore, an excellent performance. Unfortunately they were beaten 6-2 in the semi-final of the South London Cup by a very strong Royal Russell team. Well done to Tom Bradshaw, Jasdeep Dhingra, Sam Heape and Theo Brown.

Next half term 3H are going to replace the Lower 4th for lessons on a Thursday from 4pm to 5pm. After Christmas, 3P will have an opportunity followed by 3S after the spring half term.

Michael Mallett

Homefield Superstars Charity Appeal for the Royal Marsden Hospital Children's Unit

Since September, all of us in the Homefield Superstars have been busy raising money for the children's unit at the Royal Marsden Hospital. So far, we have managed to raise in the region of £60 with our 'wish well, wish often' spell. Wishing is an old form of magic that is familiar to us all, we wish on stars, on birthday candles or when we throw a coin into a fountain.

We have been lighting a candle daily, and making wishes for others who are less fortunate than ourselves. The boys have been very enthusiastic and excited about this and would like the money we raise to be put towards purchasing Christmas presents for the children who may find themselves spending time in hospital over the festive season.

The Royal Marsden is a local hospital that devotes its time to treating children and adults suffering from cancer. It is a very worthwhile charity and we would be grateful for any donations that you may wish to give. We would like to bring a little happiness and hopefully a smile to a child's face this Christmas. Please help us to make our wish come true!

If you feel you can help us in our fund raising any contributions will be gratefully received. Please hand any envelopes into the office addressed to Homefield Superstars 'wish well' spell. We would like to thank you all for your support.

Sue Moylan, the boys and staff of Homefield Superstars

Chess

A group of boys from Year 2 took part in the Surrey Chess Championship at the beginning of October and performed very well. Joshua Beukes was the Under 7 Champion and Bryn Craske and Atticus Fear received rosettes for finishing equal 5th. Other pupils who took part were Humphrey Povey, Jayan Thiru and Luca Fookes. Well done to all.