

HEADLINES

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Summer Term 2010 – May (2)

Dear Parents

If a week is said to be a long time in politics, it is no time at all in the hectic life of a school. This week the boys in the Early Years' Unit added to their numbers with the arrival of three young baby chicks. Mr Pearce and I were both privileged to be present at the time of the arrival of young baby Golden, which we timed on our synchronized watches at 9.32 am. I am sure that, like the ISI inspectors, the new arrivals are already finding the boys “**a vigorous and friendly community**”(!) Amongst all the political turmoil this week in Westminster and in the world at large, the boys' joy and wonderment at their new bundles' arrivals was a wonderful and refreshing reminder of God's true purpose and the real meaning of the gift of life.



Kerrie, Pecky and Goldie

The latest additions to the Homefield family get acquainted

A similar joy is visible on the faces of the young men in the second year pictured on a wall with their chess medals after their success in the U8 section of the recent Chess tournament at Aldro School.



4 Year 2 boys proudly displaying their medals after winning their U8 section in their very first Aldro tournament

Among other praiseworthy accomplishments by the Homefield boys this week has been that of the 5th form in calmly negotiating their Key Stage 2 examinations when so many other schools nationally defaulted, and of the senior chess team which last night defeated the older boys from The Haberdasher's Aske's school, Elstree, by a score of 5.5 to 0.5, to reach the plate semi-final of the age-weighted competition at Uppingham School. (Their only reverse in the competition this year has been, honourably, against the 1st team from Wilson's School!) Last Friday afternoon I was also privileged to receive, at first hand, fine tidings from the Headmaster of KCS, Wimbledon, of Homefield boys' scholarship examination successes. Balraj Dhingra, Arjun Sharma and Qasim Afghan all qualified for entry with flying colours whilst Raymond Yip and Samuel Yip added yet further to Homefield's high academic store and renown by securing full academic scholarships.

As I write, Dennis Sun is still patiently awaiting news of the outcome of his scholarship examination at Eton, whilst, last night, Matthew Carmedy christened my new office printer with the good news of the Russell Bencraft Scholarship award from St Edward's School, Oxford. This brings this year's tally of scholarship awards earned by the Homefield staff and boys to an all time record of **26!**

Small wonder that the ISI inspection team was able to pronounce that, “**Pupils at Homefield develop into highly-educated and informed young students, thoroughly prepared for the next stages of their lives. They achieve excellent results in national tests and succeed in their entry to senior schools, many with scholarships. Teachers are very**

effective in preparing pupils for the vital entry and scholarship examination tests they take.”

Boys in the U6th form may have trouble walking at tomorrow's **Homefield Association Fun Run** which takes place at The Sutton and Epsom Rugby Club between 11.00 am and 1 o'clock. Such is the boys' worthy elation at their all round achievements and successes this year that they will be well-justified in skipping! We are hoping to raise a substantial sum towards the chosen charities of **“Help for Heroes”** and **“The Royal Marsden”** for as the Inspectors noted, **“Through their involvement with charities pupils are able to express a sense of gratitude for the lives they lead, as well as helping those in need.”**

Don't forget that from Monday the whole school will be embarking on the week-long **Walk to School** challenge as part of our collective commitment to the environment. The boys from **The Eco Council** have this week hosted two assemblies to the boys on this topic and all the boys have demonstrated, as they did to the inspectors, that **“Throughout the school pupils show outstanding maturity in their attitudes and are often prodigiously well-informed about the wider world and current affairs”**.

STOP PRESS

I interrupt the flow of the photocopier with the momentous news of a full King's Scholarship from Eton College to Dennis Sun, which brings the Homefield tally to 27!

Best wishes

P R Mowbray

The Homefield Association

Fun Run Sat 15th May 11-1pm Sutton and Epsom Rugby Club

It is not too late to ask Grandparents or Aunties and Uncles to sponsor you in the Fun Run this Saturday! All proceeds raised will go to Cancer Research and the Royal Marsden Hospital, two worthy causes I am sure you will agree. The boys can do as much or as little as they like around the courses – and it promises to be fun too with the assault course and water squirters! Each participant receives their own certificate and prizes are awarded for the optional fancy dress. Refreshments and snacks are provided, so parents can have a coffee whilst watching. Please come along!

Bollywood Bash Sat 26th June 8pm-1am Epsom Racecourse

The much talked about social event of the Year! Come along and relax with friends, enjoy the music and dance entertainment, and the culinary feast from Bollywood. Tables are 8, 10 or 12 so join with some friends or let us know if you need a table. The dress code is smart eveningwear or International, black tie optional, but no jeans.

Tickets are £50 per person (please make cheques payable to the Homefield Association). Place your cheque in an envelope addressed to 'Bollywood Bash' and your sons name and class on, and put it in school post box.

These social events are a great way to support your son's school and meet with friends in a relaxed environment – we hope to see you there!

Nicola Rahman

(Chairperson Homefield Association)

rahmannicola@yahoo.com

Walk to School Week 17th-21st May

Next week is **Walk to School** week. Homefield boys have won the “most improved” award for the last 2 years and we should try to win it a 3rd time! Boys should have taken home a “parent flyer” reproduced below.

The boys will be encouraged to walk (or park and stride) as often as possible to and from school, and will receive a sticker for each “walking journey”. The eco-council members, who have publicised the event in the Junior and Senior assemblies this week will also organise a competition for the individual winner and the best tutor group in the Seniors and the best form for the Junior and EYU departments.

The boys from Transition to Year 6 will also be asked to put in words their travelling experiences and the Council will award certificates and prizes for the best entries.

Finally the L4th will do a “our streets ” project, involving making an audit of the surrounding streets as part of their Geography lesson on Monday morning.

Happy walking!

Mrs S White



The Early Years' Unit

Chick update;

Breaking news!

What an exciting week for all the boys and staff of course!

On Tuesday morning two eggs began to cheep and by lunchtime one chick had broken out of his egg. The second chick took a little longer and followed at the end of the day. After drying off in the incubator and existing on the yolk of the egg which is in their stomach they were moved to the brooder pen on Wednesday. A third chick emerged more quickly on Wednesday morning and was standing on his (surprisingly enormous feet) within twenty minutes of being hatched. We are crossing our fingers for the other three eggs.

We have been so pleased by the response of the boys who have witnessed the chicks emerging from their shell first hand. What a fantastic experience for them to have. We have also

appreciated many parents from all of the Early Years coming to see what is happening, please feel free to continue.



A newly emerged chick!



A voyage of discovery

We have recently been reviewing our safety procedures for entering and exiting the EYU. The side gate now has a padlock and will be opened at 8.10 and 3.10 every day and closed at 8.35 and 3.25 by a member of staff. If you are accessing the Unit with a buggy we believe this is your easiest route. Thank you for your patience.

Mrs B Whiteway

The Nursery

This week's focus is '**Space and Air Travel**'.

Some of the learning experiences planned include:

- ❖ Making Aliens from recyclable materials
- ❖ Making real lemonade
- ❖ Jolly Phonic 'y' action, song and story.
- ❖ Practising mouse control
- ❖ Recognising numerals **0 – 10 and beyond**
- ❖ Learning about opposites (above/below)

Please could you bring any recyclable materials for our junk modelling this week.

Miss Kingsford, Mrs Muller and Mrs Evans

Transition

In our topic we are discussing healthy foods and unhealthy foods and how they affect us. We will be discussing animals

which are herbivores and carnivores and grouping according to the food they eat. Of course we are continuing to make a class book recording the whole incubating and hatching process.

In Literacy we are focusing on the sound 'er' and are continuing to practise spellings on the white boards. In Numeracy we will be focusing on 'Time' again and taking it a stage further. We will be using one and five minute timers to do timed activities and practising 'o' clocks and half pasts.

Mrs Whiteway and Miss Waddy

The Junior Department

The First Year

Thank you for all the costumes that have been sent in – we are looking forward to seeing them all on the stage in our costume rehearsal next week. In our Science lessons, the boys have enjoyed keeping their cress diaries and are now keen to eat the results of their experiment in the form of cress sandwiches! Please may we remind you, that, as the weather gets warmer, the boys should have a water bottle (with sports top) in school everyday. We hope as many boys as possible will be able to join the Fun Run on Saturday – this is a good opportunity to raise money for charity and have fun at the same time.

Mrs Gunningham, Mrs Goodbody and Miss Buchanan

The Second Year

Rehearsals for the play are progressing brilliantly. Most boys now have brought in their costumes for which, very many thanks. If there are likely to be difficulties in getting your son's outfit, please can it be brought to your class teacher's attention. The new spellings are words with dge and a few challenging words. If the latter are too hard at this time, please don't worry; it's not worth any tears!

Mrs A Connaughton, Mrs R Lyndham and Mrs R Burgess

Homefield Heroes

1H Jamie Jones for effort and success in all his tasks. Well done Jamie!

1P Taslim Ali for making an excellent effort in his Literacy work. Well done Taslim!

1S Joe D'Mello for being a reliable and sensible member of the class. Well done Joe!

2H Sami Haque for the excellent progress he has made in maths and improved presentation

2P Gus Bradford for excellent effort and achievement in our weekly spelling and times tables tests. Well done, Gus

2S Benjamin Lowhing for being super-organised at the morning routine and working very hard for our play.

3H Nathan Addy-Walker for wonderful improvement in reading and writing. Also improved participation in lessons! Keep it up

3S Nasir Zahir for working hard and progressing well in maths. Well done!

Music



National Festival of Music for Youth Success!

The Homefield composers Ensemble have now received confirmation that they have been selected to perform in the National finals of the festival

of Music for youth. The boys will travel to Birmingham on Monday 5th July where they will be performing in the Adrian Boulton Hall at the Birmingham Conservatoire.

Concerts and Plays

Rehearsals are now underway for the Year 1 and 2 Junior Department production of 'The Goblin Next door'. There will be performances on Wednesday 26th May at 2.30pm and Thursday 27th May at 7.00pm. The boys are dancing and singing well and it promises to be an excellent show.

Third year boys have now started rehearsing for their concert that will take place on Thursday 24th June at 6.30pm. The 3rd years will be performing instrumental solos and recorder pieces in the first half and giving a costumed performance of the baseball musical 'The Artful Dodger' in the second half.

L4 and U4 concert

Boys in the L4 and u4 should be learning their words and practising their instrumental music for their concerts. Letters have been sent home with all details. Please return the slips to me as soon as possible.

- The U4 concert is at 6.30pm on Thursday 20th
- The L4 concert is at 6.30pm on Monday 24th May

The Ballad of Salomon Pavy

The Youth Music Theatre are presenting a children's opera 'The Ballad of Salomon Pavey' at the Rose Theatre, Kingston, on Sunday July 4th at 6.30pm. Following a successful audition, Sebastian Callaghan U4S, will be taking part in the performance.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Wesley Hsu 2H on passing Grade 1 piano with distinction and to Seleso Sepanya for passing Grade 2 guitar at the end of last term.

Mr A Meyers

Sport

First XI Cricket

The Mall 167 – 2

Homefield 99 (P.O'Brien 44*)

Lost by 68 runs

On Monday May 10 the First XI played The Mall at Sutton CC. For the Mall Hughes (the Surrey U13 number 3) scored an impressive 86* and put the game beyond our reach. We had to score quickly and wickets fell as we got to 99 of only 15 overs with Peter O'Brien (44*) and C.Kalognomas (22) putting on 58 for the 8th wicket.

Hazelwood 103 -7

Homefield 107 – 6

Won by 4 wickets

On Wednesday May 14 we played Hazelwood. Hazelwood batted first and we soon reduced them to 25 for 5 until they recovered to 103 for 7 off their 23 overs. In reply we scored the

runs required with Peter O'Brien and Qasim Afghan being joint top scorers each with 25.

Mr C Lloyd

1st XI v Chinthurst

Homefield 133 – 6 P.O'Brien 43, U.Ahmed 33

Chinthurst 111- 8 P.O'Brien 3 for 14, U.Ahmed 3 for 18

Won by 22 runs

On Wednesday May 5th the First XI played a 25 over match with Chinthurst. After a slow start against good bowling, Jack Tyler hit a rapid 18 and then Umar Ahmed and Peter O'Brien added 64 in 10 overs to give us a competitive score.

Our bowlers all performed well with Umar Ahmed and Peter O'Brien each taking 3 wickets and Wajid Khan 2 wickets to leave us the winners by 22 runs against a strong Chinthurst XI.

Mr C Lloyd

Junior Colts 'C' team v Chinthurst

Homefield had a good start to their season with an excellent win against Chinthurst School on Tuesday afternoon. In the pairs game Homefield batted first and scored 270 runs with Sebastian Callaghan and Aaron Cornish Homefield's top scores with 34 runs. Homefield's bowling was very accurate by all the boys through-out the innings. Homefield took three wickets with Dilan Patel Ravi Nair and the consistent George Hopkins each taking one wicket each.

Team:

- Sebastian Callaghan and Aaron Cornish; scored 34 runs.
- Rohan Bahl and George Hopkins scored 20 runs.
- Ravi Nair and Dilan Patel scored 12 runs
- Rohit Prabhu and Tejas Patel scored 9 runs

Well done on your first win boys.

Mr G Pearce

More Silverware for Homefield Rugby Players!

Jack Tyler and Sam Yip added to their National Prep Victory by being part of the very successful Sutton and Epsom RFC Under 13 side. The team were undefeated in Surrey Division 1 and won the league in convincing style by beating last year's champions Richmond 49-0 in the final game of the season. Old Boy, Paul Sotiriou, was also in the team. The team has been invited to Twickenham to collect the trophy on Thursday, 3rd June.

A full report appears in the local Guardian newspaper. Just follow this link:http://www.suttonguardian.co.uk/sport/rugby/otherrugby/8136998.Sutton_s_youth_policy_pays_dividends/.

Chess

Homefield boys have achieved some outstanding chess successes since the Easter break.

At the Aldro Inter-Schools Chess Tournament for U8s, U10s and U12s, Homefield had five teams of 4 playing: a team of U10 and U11 boys won the U12 section with 9.5 out of 12 points; our U10 team (having lost their top two players to the U12 team) came 2nd, just 1 point behind the winners; our U8 'A' team came 1st in the Major section, achieving the perfect

score of 12 out of 12; our U8 'B' and 'C' team played in the Minor section, where they came 1st and 2nd. Thus all 20 boys returned with a gold or silver medal for themselves plus 2 trophies for the school.

In the Surrey Megafinal of the UK Chess Challenge 2010, played over the May weekend, Homefield had a record number of 7 boys who earned themselves the title of 'Supremo', having won their age section (with an average of 50 boys playing in each section).

Aldro Inter-Schools Chess Tournament



2 Homefield boys shaking hands (in the true spirit of chess) with their opponents after successfully checkmating them



The 5 victorious Homefield teams displaying their prizes after winning the U12, U8 Major and U8 Minor sections and coming 2nd in the U10 Major

My Trip to Germany

My Dad woke me at 1.00 am. Along with my brother, Harry Stephenson and my Dad, I clambered into the car and we set off to Germany. We had a sixty mile drive to the Eurotunnel where we caught the 3.30am train to Calais.

Once we arrived in Calais, we set off on a five hundred mile drive to Hamburg. It took nine hours to get to our hotel. Amazingly, on the way a car passed us and in it was my friend Jack Newton!

Once at the hotel, we went swimming which was very refreshing after bring stuck in a car for so long. After dinner we made our way to the Hamburg Arena where the Europa League Final was being played. As we walked there, all the fans were singing and were very excited. There seemed to be a lot more Atlético Madrid fans than Fulham.

We had great seats near the front, close to one of the goals. After thirty-two minutes, the opposition scored and we feared the worst. But just five minutes later, Fulham scored a great equaliser. All the Fulham fans went crazy and we started singing even louder.

The game was very tense after that, with both sides having chances to win in normal time. After ninety minutes it was still all level and we went into extra time.

In the last five minutes of extra time, Forlan scored for Madrid. It was a hammer blow that stunned both the Fulham team and all their supporters. There was no way back and we lost the final.

We walked back to the hotel well past midnight. We were tired and sad and all we wanted to do was go to bed.

The next morning, we felt better and after a swim and breakfast, we set off home. We got back at 10.00pm. It had been a great adventure even if we didn't win.

I wonder if Fulham will ever be in a European final again?

Reporter: Harry Sprunt L6