

# Hermes

19<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Summer Term

Issue No. 424

“Rain glorious rain!”



*The orienteering team*

Dear parents

I normally write Hermes accompanied by Question Time and with David Dimbleby by my side, listening to politicians argue their point. Whilst Hermes is not a vehicle for political expression the prospect of VAT on school fees more than made my ears prick up.

Tonight is slightly different as I'm subbing as the mi/c sailing whilst Mr Stazicker is away on exped. I'm sitting on the dock of the bay writing and whilst I don't have Otis Reading with me I do have Otis R. That's fairly close! With my Form 5 mathowizzards away I have had a little bit of spare time to do that all important exercise of the grey matter. My thoughts have centred on INSPECTION. I can think of few nine letter words designed to create so much angst, possibly with the exception of HOUSEWORK (with Jo returning from exped too and lots for Rosie and me to do tonight!)

We were last inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) in May 2014. Their visits are on three year cycles so we could expect them anytime. The running order is an 8am phone call by the Reporting

Inspector on the Monday morning followed by their arrival the following day. On the Monday a selection of policies has to be sent off together with lots of data. A questionnaire has to be emailed home to you and children from Form 4 upwards will all complete their own questionnaire. On Tuesday they look at how compliant we are with regard to aspects such as H and S and Child Protection and on Wednesday there is a clearer focus of the quality of education.

At the beginning of this week we received much needed rain; not the favourite weather of our children or teachers but loved by ducks and fishermen. Hooray and at last - phew! Thanks to Antonia S for her impromptu photography.



*Great weather for ducks!!*

It has been amazing how quickly the grounds have greened up and how the seeded area has been encouraged to germinate with a velvety green haze shimmering across the surface.

In Monday's assembly we continued our discussion of mental well-being and looked at the Well Being Wheel with its six secrets to happiness. We also praised the nerve of certain members of the orienteering team who managed to keep themselves "unfound"

for much longer than Mrs Wilson, Mr Adams and I would have cared for. Thankfully they eventually turned up, none the worse for wear and in good spirits. Our team did amazingly well and a number have qualified for the next round.



### *Considering our mental well-being*

On the same day we held the interviews for the F3 Learning Assistant post. We met four very capable candidates, any one of whom would have been a great addition to our team. In the end the decision was a simple one as there was one outstanding candidate who was the unanimous choice of the five members of the interview team.

Steffi Bennett (nee Wilson) is a passionate educator with lots of experience and enthusiasm. Added to this she is an international athlete, first class hockey player and outstanding games coach, not to mention a thoroughly lovely young lady who will make a brilliant addition to our team. In her middle twenties, she will be an amazing role model to all our young ladies and keep us “wrinklies” on our toes.

On an almost daily basis special treats arrive at my office to celebrate a particularly special occasion that is normally a birthday. I’m well known for an iron will and can resist absolutely everything except temptation. Iris and Daisy dropped in with a lovely homemade cake as part of their celebration of National Norway Day. Top show I say and a “heh da” to the Hoyvag family.



### *Resisting the cakes*

The photo below shows a little tender moment between brothers, captured at the end of the school day. Tom is the apple of Teddy’s eye and loves to meet up with “big bruv” at the end of the day. At the end of the day he’s also often at the end of his energy, none more so than this day. Whilst waiting for Izzy to return from her swimming gala he quickly snuggled up with his brother and quickly descended into snooze mode and could not be woken for love nor money, despite the humdrum of Compass Lobby.



### *Brotherly love*

Holly K certainly would not have woken him as she decided to have a complete morning of silence whilst raising money for our Guide Dog Appeal. In total she raised an amazing £60 and also gave her teacher Mrs King much needed peace and quiet.





because of the dedication of all those working here and because of the amazing support we get from our governors.

Right, I must dash now as all my fishing kit is still festooned around the house and time to JDAY is closing upon Rosie and me!

Wishing you a lovely family weekend ahead!

*John Thorpe*

Mr John Thorpe  
Headmaster

### *An unusual silence with Holly*

On Thursday I paid a first visit to a long-established Senior School to the north of the county. Mary Arnal kindly invited me to lunch. She is the very proud Headmistress of St Mary's, Shaftesbury, a 9-18 catholic day and boarding school on the Dorset/Wiltshire border. The school has a quite unique ethos, is small and discerning with a very cosmopolitan student body. Small in size and big of heart, with excellent facilities, I thoroughly enjoyed my tour and would warmly recommend you to visit the school if you are thinking about girls single sex education and boarding.

On Friday Form 6 invited us all to a Sunninghill's Got Talent contest as part of their form assembly. This BGT meets Eurovision was really great fun and showcased the amazing skills of a hyper talented year group. The audience seemed to think Lawrence should go straight to the semi-final with his "hambush" joke. I loved the duelling triplets when Poppy raced Mr and Adams and Nathan who were trying to complete the Rubik's cube before she completed her piano piece.

We also welcomed our hard working governors to school for the day so we could share our daily practice with them. All volunteers, they do a huge amount of work behind the scenes to make sure the long term success of the school is guarded. I know I've said this before but it's worth repeating. We are in great shape as a school

### *Fledglings News*

Hurray for the sunshine after the deluge on Wednesday! Fledglings experimenting with water and foam play



*Sharing the bubbles*



*Enjoying playing in the sunshine*

## Nursery News

Last Friday the children finished off the day by acting out being a butterfly by collecting their nectar and sucking their pollen. They were using Wotsits and blackcurrant squash. They all had a great time and thought it was very funny.



*Snacking like a butterfly*

This week our theme has been Ladybirds.

We have enjoyed listening to many books about ladybirds, counting how many spots and how many legs they have.

The children all drew a ladybird and had to count out a predetermined number of spots from a larger pile. They all had to think hard and use their counting skills to put specific, but different numbers of spots on each side then relaying these numbers to an adult and adding them up. They also had to think to name their own ladybird beginning with the letter 'L'.



*Carefully counting out the spots*

The children have also enjoyed playing in the home corner and acting out roles within their play.



*Some of us can drink two at once!*

## Form 3 & 4

The weather has been so wet this week that Form 3 & 4 have been getting creative during wet play break times.

Invented by Dutchman Tom van der Bruggen in 1987, KAPLA is an educational wooden construction toy - Forms 3&4 have just bought a 1000 brick set for the children to use!



*Rightly proud of their teamwork*



Many thanks to Darrell for yet another memorable day!

These are work in progress that will be finished after half term.



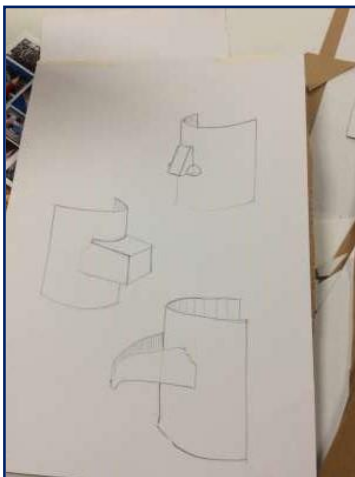
*Can I fit inside?*

### **Form 5**



*Engrossed in the planning stages*

Last Tuesday Form 5 enjoyed a workshop with Darrell Wakelam. They learnt skills with card construction to build a 3D Totem Mask linking with their Ancient Americas history topic. They really surprised themselves and achieved an excellent result.



*Grand designs*



*Looking great but a little more to do*



*Structurally sound!*

### **Brecon Beacons Expedition**

As this is being written the children are in the woods learning how to build shelters and building fires. Ray Mears usually gets a mention at this point but I don't think he had the knowledge of our children at his age.



*Team Brecon just before they left SPS*

We camped the first night with the children having to erect their own tents first. A planning session also took place for our anticipated walk up Pen Y Fan. The children then discovered the joys of Sniper a game that is now gaining legendary status. It was a wet night and we were greeted by an even wetter dawn. Fortune favours the brave and we headed for the hills. We did a circular walk of around 14km and were fortunate enough for the wind to die sufficiently to make the summit of Pen Y Fan. Dave (the main man) without prompting said that as a group he thought the current Form 5s walked with a more positive attitude than previous years and at a quicker pace.



*At the summit of Pen Y Fan*

It still needed another game of Sniper however after homemade pizzas to wear them out and a relaxing hot chocolate before bed.

Yesterday the group split and each had half a day of kayaking and canoeing (yes both) and climbing and abseiling. A great day was had by all and more than a few fears were overcome or at least challenged. With such perfect weather what better way to end the

day than a BBQ and marshmallows round the campfire. The owls in the wood later were a perfect touch but most were asleep by then!



*Pre climb and abseil*

A final thought goes out to parents- good luck with unpacking!

## **Form 6**

### **Moors Valley Orienteering**

On Friday, Forms 5 and 6 drove to Moors Valley Country Park to compete in the Dorset Schools Orienteering Competition.

After a delicious lunch of wraps and chocolate mint cake, we went over to the starting line, to have a quick briefing. We were all given a map of the area and a dibber. The idea was to collect as many points from stations as possible in 45 minutes. Some stations were worth more points. Everyone got off to a fantastic start. Even Mrs Carter and Miss Sales joined the fun!



*And they're off!!*



Many schools took part with over a hundred individual competitors. Over all it was an action packed afternoon and everyone did amazingly.



### Checking procedure

Out of all the schools, we had some fantastic results:

Category	Position	Competitors
Year 6 Boys	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Robert & Tom
Year 6 Girls	1 <sup>st</sup>	Lily B & Jessie
Year 5 Boys	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Henry & Josh
Year 5 Girls	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Nikita & Meena

And Sunninghill came second overall!



### Post event chill out

Well done everyone!

By Lily B and Lily R

## Art Classes

During the past term Form 6 has been developing their knowledge and understanding of the human form through a series of drawing tasks, clay modelling and finally their sculpture using a wire armature, kitchen roll and cellulose paste.

They have researched diverse sculptors who have interpreted the human form using different techniques and approaches. Henry Moore, simplifying the human form and in contrast, Sir Anthony Gormley to name but a few.

Their characters are part of a collaborative piece entitled 'Waiting at the bus stop'



### Very impressive results!

Mrs Saines

## In other news.....

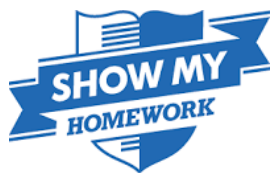
### Music

Music timetables are on the parent portal.

Mrs Hawes will be teaching on Friday.

Mrs Macnair will be teaching on Monday.

## *Should we have a homework app?*



We are always looking for ways to improve our communication with you and I am interested to hear your views on how we set and track homework.

At present, each child has a school diary to record and track homework. Older children, (Year 4 and above), also have a school email account which they can use to email work to and from home.

Recently, I have been looking at an android/apple app called 'Show My Homework'

<https://www.showmyhomework.co.uk/>

which would allow teachers to set homework and upload resources to a website, making them visible and trackable by parents and pupils. Completed work could be uploaded electronically or handed in on paper.

It would be very helpful if you could email me your thoughts or suggestions on this topic. Perhaps you have used a homework app at a previous school?

Kind regards,

*Nancy Sewed.*

Mrs N. Sewed

Director of Studies

[nsewed@sunninghill.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:nsewed@sunninghill.dorset.sch.uk)



*Modelling the homework app idea*

## *History Enrichment Afternoon*

Earlier this week a number of our historians who attend the history scholarship club, met with local history expert, Brian Bates, to discuss the activity they would lead during enrichment time. During Monday's club, they completed a quiz on evidence relating to the First World War and discussed the role propaganda played. This also gave them the opportunity to think about the way they would present their particular activity later on that week.

Pupils from both Saint Osmond's Middle School and Dorchester Middle School joined our own Form 7s for Friday's event. Chris Copson, curator from the Military Keep museum, spoke about the military campaign and trench warfare. This was complimented with Brian Bates's session focusing on the home front, in particular, what was happening in Dorset at this time. One of the key questions everybody reflected on was the importance of remembering such a major event from our past.

Congratulations go to our history scholars who led their session in a professional and informative manner.



*Planning the afternoon's activities*

## *Jordi's (Form 8) Rugby Success at Weymouth & Portland RFC*

Jordi and his U13 team have been successful in winning the Breakaway rugby festival and the 7's competition. The team has also won the U13's Dorset & Wilts Plate Trophy.



Jordi has now also been nominated by Weymouth & Portland RFC for the Bath Rugby Academy Development Player Programme (DPP) trials in August.



*Proudly showing off the team trophies*

### **Charity Walk**

Last weekend Lily B (Form 6) joined the 'Cerne Abbas Beat SCAD' team on their sponsored walk around the South Downs. Starting at Goodwood Racecourse, she walked 20km contributing to the 150km achieved by the team.

Through sponsorship, she contributed to a total in excess of £620. Congratulations to the Lily and the team.



*Go No. 567!!*

### **Charity Run**

Carolina and Lucy both from F2 took part in the Dorchester Lions Charity Fun Run last Sunday 14th May. They were both winners, performing with determination and a big smile.



*Carolina & Lucy showing off their medals*

### **Friday's Charity Fun Evening**

A big thank you to everyone who supported the year 2, 3 and 4 Fun Evening last Friday.

We all had a great time swimming, playing, eating pizzas and watching a DVD whilst enjoying popcorn!

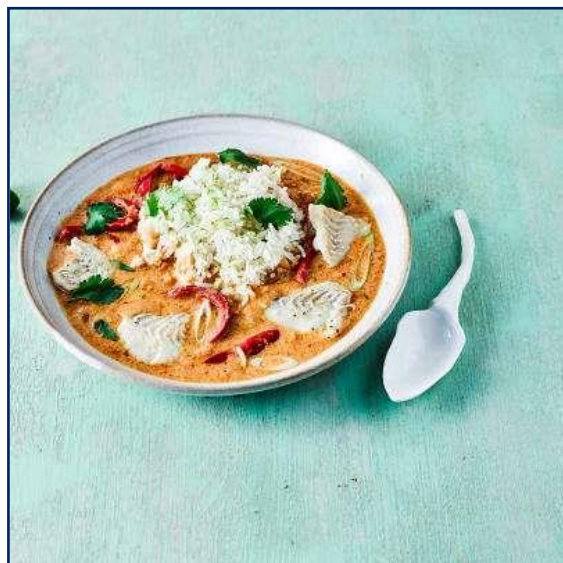
A special thank you to Kerry who stayed late to cook the pizzas!

We raised an amazing £219 which will be added to our fundraising for a Guide Dog.

Karen King

# Nutrition Natter

Hello!



This week I thought I could share some tasty and inspiring recipes I found. Click on the links below for more information.

Brazilian Fish Stew & Zesty Lime Rice

<https://www.gousto.co.uk/menu?recipeDetailId=958>

Brown Butter Cod & Parsley Potatoes

<https://www.gousto.co.uk/menu?recipeDetailId=645>

Sweet Potato & Spinach Curry

<https://www.gousto.co.uk/menu?recipeDetailId=739>

Smoked Fish Gratin with Rice

<https://www.gousto.co.uk/menu?recipeDetailId=830>

Cheesy Vege Enchiladas

<https://www.gousto.co.uk/menu?recipeDetailId=968>

Enjoy your week and continue enjoying food!

Marina Mendes

# Sports News

## U9 West Dorset Swimming Gala

Lots of swimming success this week with the younger children.

On Tuesday we took a Year 4 team to the West Dorset Primary Gala at the 1610 pool. The team looked very smart and encouraged and supported each other fantastically. There were 2 heats in each race and individually our swimmers finished 1<sup>st</sup> in 4 races and 2<sup>nd</sup> in 2. Holly, Poppy and Valentine won their heats. William was 2<sup>nd</sup> in the breaststroke in his heat and Gethyn was 3<sup>rd</sup> in the backstroke. The boy's teams of Theo, William, Eddie, Gethyn and Valentine won both the freestyle and medley relays with the girls Holly, Poppy, Molly and Mia coming 1st in their medley relay.

The following have qualified for the county finals in June.

Poppy S	25m Backstroke
Holly K	25m Breast stroke
Boys	4 x 25m Mixed Stroke and Freestyle Relay team
Girls	4 x 25m Mixed Stroke Relay team

To top it all Sunninghill won the competition with 84 points, 5 points ahead of our nearest rivals. Well done to all our swimmers.

## U9/8 Swimming v Leweston

Also on Tuesday all the Year 3 and 4 children went to Leweston for a friendly gala.

It was an opportunity for everyone to swim front and backcrawl and for some to challenge themselves to complete a length. A lot of the races were very close with lots of support from the children and parents watching. A lovely learning experience.

## Millfield Sailing Regatta

The second Millfield Prep Schools Regatta took place in the Olympic waters of



Weymouth and Portland. Unfortunately any hope of local knowledge being an advantage was ruined by the weather. The forecast was so bad that two schools pulled out the day before leaving 28 boats and racing was restricted on the day to very short one lap affairs with a maximum of 6 boats.



*Spirits were high despite difficult conditions*

The results were more of a reflection of survival ability rather than any knowledge of racing a boat. At times there were 4 boats out of the 6 bottoms up with rescue teams working hard. That said patterns did emerge during the day and those that made the least mistakes moved up the leader board. Mistakes in the conditions were very costly as they usually meant a capsize.



*Struggling to keep upright in tough weather*

The event was sailed in 30 knot winds gusting 35, in other words conditions where Olympic and America's Cup races would have been cancelled!

The three Sunninghill crews were some of the youngest there, all from Year 5 sailing against mainly Year 7 and 8. Archie crewed

by Freya got off to a great start with a second place in their first race. The next two were a little more difficult and with such short races capsizing takes you out of the running. They ended the day 27<sup>th</sup>.

Ben and Tymon started with a capsize and an 8<sup>th</sup> place then got steadily better ending the last race in a great 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishing 22<sup>nd</sup> overall.

Erin and Gabriel found the conditions in the first race challenging coming in 5<sup>th</sup>. They then got into their stride and were left wondering what might have been when they recorded two 1<sup>st</sup> places in the next races. They finished a very respectable 6<sup>th</sup> overall.



*Gabriel punches the air after one of two wins*

A huge 'Well done!' to all sailors. It was great to see children with such a great attitude and love of what they are doing represent the school. IAPS Nationals here we come!

***Photo credit - Andrew Simpson Sailing Academy***

***Unfortunately all Wednesday rounders and cricket matches had to be cancelled due to the weather!***

***Form 8 responsibilities  
Summer Term:***

Head Boy:	<i>Cal Chibnall</i>
Head Girl:	<i>Carmen Krosnar</i>
Sports:	<i>Olivia Mallows &amp; Ben Fry</i>
Outdoor Ed:	<i>Bonnie Davenport &amp; James Cook</i>
English:	<i>Brook Michael-Beale</i>
Maths:	<i>Elliot Raybould &amp; Teisha Barrey</i>
Science:	<i>Jamie Barrington</i>
Humanities:	<i>Peter Message</i>
Art:	<i>Rachel Williams-Schoeller &amp; Hannah Stanhope</i>
IT:	<i>Brook Michael-Beale, Jacob Horton, Charlie Blake &amp; Xan Airy</i>
Drama:	<i>Joni Denne-Loader &amp; Millie Durkin-Jones</i>
Citizenship:	<i>Oliver Shutt &amp; Fifi Collett</i>
Library:	<i>Alexander Valadas Marques</i>

***School email addresses:***

Lydia: [lhampshire@sunninghill.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:lhampshire@sunninghill.dorset.sch.uk)

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# Weekly diary and communications

<b>WHOLE SCHOOL</b>	<p>Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Tues 23<sup>rd</sup></p> <p>Form 2 Upwey Wishing Well Form 3 - 8 Effort Grades on the Portal Forms 2 - 4 BSO, Poole Lighthouse Informal Concert, Music Room, 4.00 pm</p> <p>Wed 24<sup>th</sup></p> <p>IAPS National Prep School Regatta U13 &amp; U12 Tennis v Leweston @ Knighton House U11 &amp; U10 Rounders v Knighton House U13/12 A Cricket v Beaminster U13/12 B Cricket Clayesmore U11/12/13 SPS Cricket Tournament</p> <p>Thurs 25<sup>th</sup></p> <p>IAPS National Prep School Regatta Class Photos, from 8.30 am Reception Visual Screening, 9.00 am After School Golf 4.30 pm Form 3 - 8 After School Sailing 4.30 pm</p> <p>Fri 26<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Form 5 Assembly. All parents welcome Form 2 - 4 Gangsta Granny, Poole Lighthouse Parent and Toddler Group 10.00 - 11.30 am Form 3 &amp; 4 Sailing Enrichment Form 7 First Aid Enrichment</p>
<b>LETTERS ON THE PORTAL</b>	<p><b>Half term: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b></p> <p>Reception to Form 8 Music Timetable Whole School Menu Forms 3 - 8 Sports Team Sheets &amp; Fixtures of the Week</p>
<b>Fledglings</b>	No news
<b>Nursery</b>	No news
<b>Reception</b>	Visual Screening letter
<b>Form 1</b>	No news
<b>Form 2</b>	BSO parent tickets
<b>Form 3</b>	BSO parent tickets Homework App letter
<b>Form 4</b>	BSO parent tickets Homework App letter
<b>Form 5</b>	Homework App letter Register of Highly Able Pupils (selected)
<b>Form 6</b>	Homework App letter Register of Highly Able Pupils (selected)
<b>Form 7</b>	Homework App letter Register of Highly Able Pupils (selected)
<b>Form 8</b>	Study Leave letter Homework App letter