

Hermes

10th July 2017

Summer Term

Issue No. 430

“As the dust settles”



The Form 7 Hustings Team

Dear Parents

As the dust finally settles on a very busy final week of the year, I think we can all share a great sense of pride and togetherness.

The PTFA Summer Fayre got the last week of the academic year off to a roaring start. Spearheaded by Natasha Buchan-Moore and her team, and bathed in sunshine, it was a memorable day that hit every expectation we had, and much more. The crowds came out in great numbers, which included many families from the town.

The attraction of the Dog Show was a real highlight and great fun. I was slightly embarrassed to see Ivy scoop top prize by winning “The dog the judge would most like to take home”. Amidst cries of “fix” I was slightly disappointed she didn’t follow through with her stated desire. Ivy is a constant challenge to my manliness, and there are only so many times that you can explain to your fellow canine owners what a Cavachon is without feeling the need to apologise.



Some of the dog show participants

The attraction of the Pimms tent run by David Frake and his partner was its usual hit, though such was the summer high that a quick dash to the supermarket was needed to top up supplies.

On the BBQ, Claire, Kevin, David and Grant worked manfully and womanfully all day, cooking several hundred burgers in the heat of the day.



The PTFA Summer Fayre in full swing

The Lions' Lair stalls all seemed to sell out of their products, and the year groups stalls were all great fun. In an assembly later in the week, Mrs Brunt would tell us that their combined selling reached £1,000 - all of which goes to worthy charitable causes.



Some of the Lions' Lair stalls at the Fayre

I must thank everybody for their great help and support during the Summer Fayre. The bar has been set very high for next year and we raised almost £3,000!!

Talking about setting the bar high, Wednesday saw us enjoy Junior and Senior sports day. One of the highlights was undoubtedly the high jump competition between Merry P and Elliot R. Inch by inch, Ms Thomasson carefully raised the height with a very appreciative crowd enjoying the duel that Elliot narrowly edged.

There were great races throughout the afternoon with the event reaching a crescendo with the senior sprints and relay events.

The final winners were Maumbury House for Reception to Form 2 and Forms 3 to 8 winners were Ridgeway House.

Nursery also had a fantastic sports day with a lot of great races. The parents' race was probably the most subscribed of all!



Nursery enjoying their sports day



Reception to Form 2's sports day



Form 3 to Form 8's sports day

We also had Hustings last week - a Form 7 event where you put yourself forward for positions of leadership in your final year in the school. We had great difficulty separating candidates from each other though as always, our democratic system had the final say.

On Tuesday we hit our target of getting end of year reports onto the school portal. I must thank all the teachers for working so hard to get reports finished ahead of schedule so you could visit us before the term ends if you needed clarification on a particular point.

On Wednesday we enjoyed a very funny Form 8 leavers' assembly and breakfast, with their now customary "Guess the baby" competition and much more. As a first, presents were handed out to teachers in honour of their contribution to the school. I was very surprised to receive a large compendium of jokes to top up my ailing catalogue. I couldn't quite believe it - surely they meant this for Mr Adams as mine has always been in top form?

Cup winners were also awarded on Wednesday in Assembly. Congratulations to everyone.



Our cup winners

On Thursday, we had a quiet day which is a chance to catch our breath; the calm before the storm if you like.

The final day of the term loomed large. The school has a quiet nervousness about it and

that hour before going to the church seems to drag interminably as we wait for the off.

The day began with our proud walk across town to St Peter's Church for the Form 8 Leavers' Service, which is always full of bitter sweetness. Tissues are provided to parents and children say their goodbyes to the community. The staff choir as usual excelled, though were upstaged by an amazing Chamber Choir and some brilliant singing, notably by Orlagh, Robert and Joseph who were simply outstanding.

With no time to catch your breath, the service was briskly wrapped up and we headed back to school for Speech Day and Prize Giving.

We just managed to shoe-horn an excited audience into the hall. Richard Miller, Chairman of Governors, formally opened proceedings, handing me the baton for leg two of the relay.



Chair of Governors Richard Miller

In my address, I tried to focus on the future and what it might hold for our community. I used a recent inheritance from an aging aunt to provide more accurate insight and Mrs Moss and her Chamber Choir added to the occasion with a brilliant performance of, "I'm only Human". I must also thank Mrs Nikki Carr for timing so perfectly the images on the big screen. It all focussed our minds

on the difficulties of being a teenager and indeed a parent in these testing times.



The chamber choir during their performance

The final leg of the relay saw Mr and Mrs Iftikhar welcomed to the stage. Mrs Iftikhar awarded prizes, amiably supported by Mrs Brunt, Mrs Hampshire and Mr Stazicker.

Proceedings were then inspirationally brought to a close by Mr Iftikhar whose message to the Form 8 leavers was that no matter your circumstance you must aim as high as you possibly can. He shared with us his humble beginnings in Pakistan and the journey he followed to be such a successful and respected member of the medical community. I am sure the younger children will remember his story about the water buffalo and no school on rainy days.

Gifts were then given to a most lovely family who have enjoyed a seventeen year association with the school.



The Iftikars at Speech Day

We then escaped the building heat of the hall for Pimms and canapes on the lawn. Whilst families with younger children in the school picnicked on the lawn, we enjoyed a most sumptuous Leavers' lunch, which this year, due to numbers, spread out into the gardens. Thankfully, Mandy's superb new customised gazebos came in very handy and added an extra touch of glitz to the occasion.

I must thank Kerry and her amazing team for providing such a superb finale to the week.

Mid-afternoon, we said a very sad goodbye to our guests, amidst lots of misty eyes and fond farewells.

Finally, we tidied up and headed home for a quick power snooze before meeting up in Weymouth for a farewell party for Laura before she heads off to Bath University in September. Earlier in the day we handed her flowers in Speech Day. More than a few tears flowed!

Can I take this final opportunity of the year to thank you for the great trust and support you have invested in us and wish you all a very happy summer holidays. It looks like it is going to be a scorcher!

Mr John Thorpe
Headmaster

Fledglings News

After another fantastic, fun year in Fledglings the time has come for the summer break.



On behalf of myself and the team, Laura and Ella, we wish you a wonderful relaxing summer. Nikki Carr

In other news.....

Rotary Youth Showcase

We were delighted to see that Tallulah, Form 6, received her award at the Rotary Youth Showcase. Many congratulations on a well-deserved win.



Tallulah receiving her award

Bursar's Bytes



Following last week's incident in school the Headmaster and I undertook an in-depth site security review and we now have a programme of projects for the team over summer holidays that will further enhance site security. We will be fitting the new Compass Lobby doors next week which, as

they are bespoke, have been on order since March.

The police told me that the suspect has been targeting all the schools in the Dorchester area but that we were the only school that challenged the suspect and were able to give a very good description. The police were able to confirm the description from our CCTV images. Full marks to the member of staff involved. On that note I am pleased to say that all our staff are very security conscious and will challenge anyone who they do not recognise in school, so please do not be offended if you are challenged: it will only be because you are not known to that particular person.

Have a lovely summer break.

Mrs Akerman

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Our Contact Details:

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Form 8 responsibilities Autumn Term:

Head Boy:	Joseph Burdge
Head Girl:	Imogen Douie
Sports:	Erin Philips Tom Swanton
Outdoor Ed:	William Hortin
English:	Lewis Rowbotham
Maths:	Douglas Bowering
Science:	Imogen Douie & Khalid Miah
Humanities:	Tom Swanton
Art:	Hannah Davis
ICT:	Lucas Jones, Dominic Woollam & Lewis Rowbotham
Music & Drama:	Joseph Burdge & Katie Shovlar
Citizenship:	Rosie Reynolds & Tilly Jones
MFL:	Sebastian Pas
Eco Schools:	Dominic Woollam

School email addresses:

Lydia: lhampshire@sunninghill.dorset.sch.uk

Mandy: registrar@sunninghill.dorset.sch.uk

Weekly diary and communications September

WHOLE SCHOOL DIARY OF EVENTS	Mon 4th	Staff Training
	Tues 5th	Staff Training
	Wed 6th	First Day of the Autumn Term for children
	Thurs 7th	Forms 3 - 8 After School Sailing
	Fri 8th	Welcome back Assembly. Parents welcome. 8.30 am
		Form 6 - Sailing
		Form 7 - Windsurfing
		Form 8 - Shakespeare
LETTERS ON THE PORTAL	Tennis Lessons School Reports E-safety Newsletter from Dorset Police (all years) on portal	
Fledglings	No letters	
Nursery	No letters	
Reception	No letters	
Form 1	No letters	
Form 2	No letters	
Form 3	No letters	
Form 4	No letters	
Form 5	No letters	
Form 6	No letters	
Form 7	No letters	
Form 8	No letters	