

Hermes

1st November 2016

Autumn Term

Issue No. 404/68



*Fledglings in action!
Running, scrunching and kicking the
Autumn leaves*

“All the world’s their stage”

Dear Parents

Edition 404/67 of Hermes arrives in a different format this week. One of our servers has taken to its sick bed and the replacement part hasn’t arrived in time for Lydia to talk to the network and retrieve all the information and programs she need to send you our regular Hermes.

I’m afraid you’ll have to be satisfied with my own editorial for now, though as soon as we are fixed we’ll send you the full version to make sure our “not out” innings continues.

I’ll begin with a thanks to regular readers of Hermes for their feedback on last week’s

editorial. It turns out there are tortoise experts amongst you and my attempts to safely hibernate Betty may not be in her best interests. More specifically, the moist soil I have planted her in may leave her mouldy with the possibility of expiration before spring. She has to be double boxed in straw and paper and left in a cool place. That’s a new job for my weekend “to do” list.

So much seems to have happened in both school and the wider world this week. It very much reminds me of my Brexit Hermes in the summer term.

Top of my list goes to Form 8s who gave their long awaited performance of “As you Like it” at the Weymouth Pavilion on Wednesday evening. A very appreciative audience were treated to three performances from three very talented schools, all delivering their own version of the bard’s work. I would like to congratulate Mrs Fernley, Mrs Sales and Ms Carter for all their hard work in supporting such a talented troop (if that’s the common noun to describe a group of actors?)

In Monday’s assembly we talked about Love Hearts, those lovely sweets we used eat alongside Parma Violets and Flying Saucers. It takes me back to a time when ½ pence bought a sweet and crisps were 5p. I tried to reference the sweets against the American presidential election where the only thought on the minds of the candidates hoping to be in charge of the world’s most powerful country was hate and conflict.

Brave volunteers stood up in front of their peers and took a sweet, having to act on the message on the reverse side. The first volunteer (victim?) picked “COOL DUDE” and chose to give it to his younger brother who

he said was awesome. What a great start. It was working perfectly.

I then asked for a Form 8 boy to come out. There was just one brave volunteer and low and behold he picked, "KISS ME!" I grabbed it from him very quickly whilst he was eagerly sizing up which gorgeous girl he was going snog and we moved on very quickly!

Of course, our message was to try to spread little random moments of love (not those of the behind the bike shed kind that never came my way when I was fifteen).

Hasn't it been sad to follow what can only be described as the worst election campaign a democratic country in the developed world has ever ran. It is no surprise that when I turned on the TV this morning half of America were rejoicing and continuing their horrid "lock her up" chant and half were looking to start a civil war and marching on every Trump Tower.

Contrast that with the more stoic Brits who "leave or remain" have accepted the vote of the common man and said, "it's up to us to make it work and to put the Great back into Britain."

Elsewhere in school, I was asked by a parent how I was doing with my guide dog fundraising idea. As you might remember, I floated the idea for 2017 of concentrating our charity fundraising on supporting the purchasing and training of one guide dog whose progress we could follow.

Well, I now know that if we raised £2,500 over the next twenty months we could fully support one Labrador puppy up to the point when it starts work as a fully-fledged guide dog. There would be visit and updates and workshops by the RNIB to assist learning. We might even be able to keep in touch with the person who receives the pup though this can't be guaranteed and depends on the view of the individual person. It sounds a fantastic idea and one I hope we can embrace as a school.

I thought each form and their parents and teacher might be able to organise one event each in the year.

I also thought that as a community we might be able to organise a fundraiser ourselves. I know there are lots of open water swimmers amongst us. Should we set up a relay team to swim the channel? We also have some very keen hillwalkers and could try to climb the Three Peaks of Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon one long summer day.

I did volunteer to the Governors to try to catch a salmon from each of the Scottish rivers and sample a wee dram from each of the distilleries but for some reason unknown to me it fell on stony ground. Spoilsports!

If any of the above ideas float your boat or lace your boots, please do contact me.

On the subject of fundraising, do remember to try to support the new PTFA's first event of this calendar year by attending next Friday's quiz night. It is always very-light hearted and great fun, and a chance to humble the all-conquering staff team who have been attending every pub quiz in west Dorset for the last three months. Tickets are £10 and can be bought from Lydia at the front desk or from member of the PTFA in Compass Lobby each afternoon. There's a great curry for you to enjoy and hopefully a glass of Tiger beer too.

Posters are also up advertising Julie Hansen's Christmas Shopping Spectacular on Friday 2nd December. Those of you who attended this evening do in school last year will be able to testify what a fantastic event it was and what a great way to kick-start your festive season.

As I mentioned earlier, yesterday was an interesting day in school. Our network decided to down tools and go on strike and we were bereft of computers, the network and our database system for the whole day and beyond. Would you believe it, our registers had to be completed with paper and pencil! As you might imagine, our younger generation of teachers and assistants wandered around aimlessly, wondering if the end of the world was nigh. We old timers had a slightly smug, "good old days" look on our faces.

We have been preparing for our Remembrance Service this week. Through talking to our young children selling and wearing poppies I know how much understanding and empathy they have for this event.

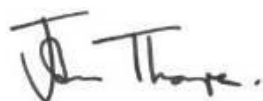
I must pay tribute to Pippa S in F2 who had given the matter lots of thought herself and produced decorated biscuits with edible poppies on them to sell at Fun Food Friday and raise valuable funds for the cause.

Our minute of silence at 11am was observed impeccably and I know our service will do credit those who have given their lives so we can be free.

Finally, can I draw your attention to a couple of events happening in school next week. Mr Stazicker is running a series of events to support national Anti-Bullying week. This will include a whole school assembly, discussion in PSHE lessons and leaflets being sent home so you can support our endeavours.

It is also Children in Need next Friday. We're supporting the day by having a "mufti-day" wearing as many spots as possible.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.



Mr John Thorpe
Headmaster

Children in Need

Friday 18th November is Children in Need Day. We are helping to support this charity by encouraging all children and staff to wear something spotty for the day and bring in a donation.



Nursery News

Children from Nursery and Reception having their own bonfire with hot chocolate and marshmallows.



Nursery children have enjoyed splatter painting to make a night time back drop.



Cookery enrichment

This term we have added cookery to our Friday afternoon enrichments. We have, so far, worked with some very enthusiastic children from years four and five who have had some great ideas of what they would like to make. These have included Sausage and apple plait, spaghetti carbonara, Quinoa salad and calamari.

We have shown the children several skills including those needed to peel and cut ingredients safely and have discussed the importance of food hygiene. The children have worked on their team skills as well as thinking independently. In some sessions we split the group into teams. Each team had to

nominate a head chef who then led their team in making their chosen dish- They even did the washing up!

We are looking forward to continuing with Form 7 this half term.

Miss Clark and Kerry

PTFA News

Dear Parents

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and to tell you about some exciting events in the near future.

Firstly a brief introduction, my name is Natasha Buchan-Moore and I am your new PTFA chairwoman. I am the mother of four beautiful children, the youngest of which is in Reception at Sunninghill. I have never previously been directly involved with the PTFA, although having three older children I have supported many an even.

To date the PTFA have worked extremely hard in raising funds, this has enabled us to buy equipment and support many school projects, this in turn has enriched all of our children's lives and has also helped to create some wonderful memories for both parent and child. To enable us to continue to improve our children's school experience, we will need help from you. No matter how great or small a contribution you can make, anywhere anyone can chip in will be greatly appreciated.

In order to communicate with each of the year groups throughout the school, we are asking for a class representative to step forward for each year. This will provide a point of contact, to ensure we are involving all parents. Please note that by stepping forward, it does not mean you have to attend all meetings and fundraising organised by the PTFA (unless you want to of course!). If we all contribute a little we can achieve a lot.

Dates for the diary

Firstly we have our Quiz and Curry Night on 18th November at 7.30pm at the school. Mr

Thorpe informs me that we have a current team that has reigned supreme, but I for one would secretly like to take their crown! It should be a wonderful evening, with fabulous prizes to be won and a delicious curry buffet. Tickets are priced at £10 per head and will be for sale in the compass lobby every day after school. Alternatively please contact Lynn Stover via email at lynn@stover.biz and we can arrange for collection. Lydia also has some tickets available.

Our next exciting event will be the PTFA Shopping Evening to be held on Friday 2nd December at 7pm in school. Tickets are priced at £3 per head and this includes mulled wine, mince pies, apple schnapps, chilli sausages, turkey blinis and entry into a prize draw. We have some wonderful stalls coming this year, so get ahead of the game and get your Christmas shopping done in an evening, with the added luxury of a glass of mulled wine in your hand. Tickets will be sold in the compass lobby after school, from Lydia or alternatively please email lynn@stover.biz with your requests.

There will be many more fabulous events coming up in the new year and we would really appreciate you input. We shall be sending out a questionnaire, asking for your ideas as to what sort of events you would like us to arrange and when you would prefer them to be held.

I firmly believe that if we all chip in and work together as a team we will be able to achieve great things for both the school and our children.

Please feel free to contact me with any queries or suggestions. My contact details are necmoore@hotmail.com

See you at the quiz night!

Many thanks

Natasha Buchan-Moore

Help the Sunninghill PTFA whilst doing your Christmas Shopping!

Many of you will be doing some (or all!) of your Christmas shopping online. If you are there is a great way to help the school PTFA raise some funds.

The PTFA have an account with The Giving Machine and whilst you shop at your favourite online stores (Amazon, John Lewis, Ebay and hundreds more) The GivingMachine will work in the background claiming commission from the retailer and paying it to the school PTFA, all at no cost to you.

All you need to do to activate this is to:

1. Go to The Giving Machine Website www.thegivingmachine.co.uk
2. Click on "Join" and then "Join as a Giver"
3. In the Search box, type "Sunninghill Prep" and then select the cause "Sunninghill Preparatory School"
4. Click on "Join & Support"
5. Enter your personal details (if you are eligible please also click Gift Aid) and click Join
6. Install the "Shop&Give" app and this will automatically raise donations as you shop.
7. If you didn't install the "Shop&Give" app just log into The Giving Machine next time you shop and search for your favourite stores.

Note: The personal information you give will only be used by The Giving Machine and not sold or given to any third parties (this is all detailed in the Account section of the FAQs). The Shop&Give app works as an extension to your browser.



Last year the PTFA spent over £14,000 buying additional equipment for our children to use at school. Please help us raise more with your online shopping this Christmas and

we can provide more great facilities and opportunities for our children.

Advance Notice

On Thursday 8th December all children and staff are invited to wear their Christmas Jumpers to school.

Also on this day parents are invited to join us for Carols under the Stairs at 10.30 am (you are welcome to wear your Christmas jumpers too!).

Children will also enjoy their Christmas Lunch on 8th December.

Music News

ABRSM Music exams are on Wednesday 30th November - we haven't been given a candidate timetable yet, but it will be held in the Dunovaria Hall in Fordington.

SPORTS NEWS

U12 Hockey v BCS

Result: 2 - 1 win

A very vocal and enthusiastic group of parents were entertained by a pacey open game which Sunninghill just deserved to win.

Sunninghill took an early lead after a succession of attacks led to Erin P slotting the ball forcibly into the net. They soon doubled their lead when a superb through ball from Erin gave Izzy the opportunity to calmly slot the ball past the stranded BCS goalkeeper.

This spurred BCS into attacking with more conviction, testing both Lilly and Imogen in defence. Tilly made some excellent saves either side of half time but early in the second half, BCS clawed a goal back.

Play then went from end to end with both teams creating chances but were thwarted

by some excellent defending and goalkeeping.

Contribution Award: Lily R for remaining calm but determined in defence.

U10/11 Hockey v The Park

Result: 0 - 0 draw

A very frustrating game as we had the majority of the play and possession but failed to score. The pitch was long, narrow and with tiny D's. We could not shoot until we were so close to goal and the opposition packed their D. Our skills have really improved and we had several great passing moves using all our players. We used our reverse stick and switched the play effectively. Freya tackled strongly; Nikita danced through the defence but over did it at times when a pass was on. Gemma played well, coming through from defence and sending some excellent passes. Sophia, Lily, Erin, Verity and Frida all made valuable contributions and the team work was great. We deserved at least one goal if not more.

Contribution award: The opposition chose Nikita for her ball skills.

U8 Tag Rugby v Castle Court

Results:

1st match 11-6 win

2nd match 9-8 win

On Tuesday afternoon the U8 boys played two tag rugby matches against Castle Court. Unfortunately the team were not as organised defensively and sloppy defensive mistakes were made resulting in Castle Court score tries.

Excellent runs from Theo, Max and Thomas resulted in many tries. The team fought hard and managed to win both games. The boys need to continue to pass the ball around, preferably before they are going to get tagged, to improve their rugby performance.

Contribution award goes to Max J for outstanding commitment and effort.

Swimming Galas:

There next Swimming Gala is:

Tuesday 22nd November 6.30 - 8.00pm
Form 6 - 8 at Clayesmore.

Please make a note of this date in your diary. Thank you!

World Biathle Champs

Erin ran in the relay and came 6th in the world champs with her partner James and



she was 13th in the individual race. It was 92 degrees and 84 degrees on the respective days and as an 11 year old in the U13 category we were

very proud of her achievement. Olivia came along to cheer her on and we had a wonderful few days.



She has also qualified for the National Biathlon Championships in Solihull this month - bit colder than Florida but I'm sure she will survive.



Julie Horn

Letters this week

Menu, website
Music Timetables, website
Sports Fixtures, website
PTFA Raffle tickets
Headmaster's Appraisal

Extra copies of all letters are available from the School Office.

Dorchester Community Play

The Dorchester Community Plays Association is organising a Quiz Evening on 14th January 2017 in the Dorchester Town Hall. £6 per head to include a baked potato supper. Teams of between 4 and 6 players. Usual bar facilities in the Corn Exchange but bring along nibbles to keep the grey cells working.

We are planning a world-record-breaking seventh Dorchester history inspired community play for 2018. This is your chance to come along and find out more about it as well as having a fun evening with many others from the Dorchester community.

A Community Play is specially written for and about a town's community and its history. Local people from all areas of the community and from all age groups work together on an equal basis led by professional directors, designers and costume makers and with a professional stage crew to create an outstanding production. Open to all, it is a totally

inclusive project that makes a lasting impression on the community and all who participate.

We do hope you can join us - these evenings have proved very popular and great fun in the past.

Kind Regards

Joy Wallis

For more information:
joy_wallis@hotmail.com

Lost and Found

Lost: Elliott's named rugby boots
Lost: Khalid's named blazer
Lost: Niamh M's named rain coat
Lost: Oliver's named school coat and sweatshirt

Please remember to name all clothes and equipment so they can be returned to the correct child. If you are missing any named clothes please check in the lost property box, now situated outside the boys changing room and girls' toilets.

Please check that your child only brings home their uniform each week, and please return any items not belonging to your child. Thank you.

Multi-coloured Swap Shop

Don't forget the swap shop in Compass Lobby - swap and return your books, wellies and trainers.

This is working very well - thank you to everyone who is swapping!

Second Hand Uniform Shop

Our second hand uniform shop is based in our medical room at the front of the school. Please contact me if you would like to buy any uniform.

If you would like to sell or donate any **good quality uniform**, please ensure everything

is washed/dry cleaned before leaving it with me. Please remember to remove your child's name labels.

We sell second hand uniform with proceeds going to our PTFA. If you would like to receive 50% of the sale of your items please clearly label and price each item. Please pin or use luggage labels (sticky labels tend to fall off and get lost!). If you would like to donate the clothes, no labelling is required.

We only sell clothes with the school logo on, so if you have any trousers, shirts or blouses you no longer require, please take them to your local charity shop.

With thanks

Lydia

School email addresses:

Lydia: lhampshire@sunninghill.dorset.sch.uk

Mandy: registrar@sunninghill.dorset.sch.uk

Hermes Editor: Lydia Hampshire

Our Contact Details:

South Court, South Walks, Dorchester, DT1 1EB

Tel: 01305 262306

Prep Club Mobile: 07437 891994

Dates for your Diaries - Nov 2016

Mon 14th Form 3 New Barn Field Centre
Form 4 Dorchester Library

Tue 15th U8/9 Hockey v Sherborne Prep (H)
U8/9 Tag Rugby v Sherborne Prep (H)

Wed 16th U12/13 A & B Hockey v Knighton House (A)
U11 & U10 Hockey v Knighton House (H)
U12/13 X11 Rugby v Sherborne Prep (H)
U10/11 Rugby v Sherborne Prep (H)

Thur 17th Individual Photos from 9.00 am
After School Skiing

Fri 18th Children in Need – wear spots
Reception Assembly – all parents welcome
PTFA Quiz Night

Form 8 responsibilities

Autumn Term:

Head Boy: Aman Iftikhar
Head Girl: Orlagh O'Donnell

Sports: Jordi Murphy &
Bonnie Davenport

Outdoor Ed: Bonnie Davenport &
James Cook

English: Brook Michael-Beale
Maths: Elliot Raybould &
Teisha Barrey

Science: Jamie Barrington
Humanities: Peter Message
Art: Rachel Williams-Schoeller &
Hannah Stanhope

IT: Brook Michael-Beale, Jacob
Hortin, Charlie Blake &
Xan Airy

Drama: Joni Denne-Loader & Millie
Durkin-Jones

Citizenship: Oliver Shutt & Fiji Collet
Library: Alexander Valadais Marques