

Hermes

20th January 2017

Spring Term

Issue No. 411



Our Ambassadors from the Anti-bullying Day

“We wait with baited breath....”

Dear Parents

There's lots to report on this week.

On Monday we were delighted to welcome the Guide Dogs Association to school to kick start our fundraising to support the purchase and training of a guide dog.

Our visitors were Gemma who is a coordinator for the GDA, Janet who is looking after a mischievous 6 months old lab cross retriever called Digger until he is ready for formal training, and Jo and her working guide dog, Jess.

Each gave great insight into their job description.

Gemma's chief role is to support fundraising which must be a very busy role given the full cost of training a lab to full working age is about £55 000 pounds.

Janet must have the patience of a saint because she has to look after Digger at his most excitable age and stage and then hand him across to the GDA trainers when he comes of age. Digger was very vociferous and kept us all amused.



Digger and Janet wait patiently.

Until Jess came into her life, Jo described herself as somewhat of a recluse, only going out with her mum and never on her own. Her new life with Jess is just inspiring and they even go on a plane together.

We are totally committed to raising the £2500 needed to get the ball rolling and have set up a Just Giving page for the events we plan to organise.



The girls meet Jess

Jemma noted we'll get to name and meet our pup and get regular video updates of its training until it finally teams up with its new owner. What an emotional moment that must be.



Jemma in action

Staying on the fundraising trail, I received a lovely "thank-you" letter this week from the Children's Society. Just before Christmas they helped us celebrate Christingles and in return we sent a number of candle money boxes home. In these boxes we asked you just to put in copper coins. Amazingly we raised £189. We also donated half of the money from the Carol Service to the same worthy cause. Thank you so much for your support and generosity.

Elsewhere, private schools received bad press this week with the headlines in the Times on Tuesday reading, "Elite schools have cavalier approach to child protection". I can fully assure you that nothing could be further from the truth with us and with many others in the sector that I know well. Mr Stazicker, our Designated Safeguard Lead (DSL) spends a huge amount of time training every single member of our staff to be aware of their responsibilities and talking to all our children about their rights.

We also have a very close working relationship with the Dorset safeguarding team and have three other members of staff who also support this most essential part of school. They are Mrs Carr, Miss Clarke and Mrs Sewed.

Mrs Moss has launched details of her choir tour to Cornwall this week. It sounds an action packed few days at the end of Arts Week in June. It is an excellent reward for such a dedicated team and a chance for them all to display their talents to a wider audience and on a bigger stage.

The Chamber Choir have now exceeded forty pupils for the very first time and we have more boys involved than ever before. I am really pleased about this as it does wonders for the culture of your school when it becomes cool for boys to sing and dance. Much praise must be given to Khalid M and Joseph B in F7 who have really ploughed their own furrow and inspired younger boys to want to be like them.

We also have had an anti-bullying day in school this week with three mentors from the Diana Award, alongside Mrs Sewed and Mr Stazicker, training twenty of our own anti-bullying ambassadors from F5 to 7. Two others schools also joined us for the day. They were Twynham and Poole High. It was great for the children to mix with other schools and share their experiences on such an important issue. All participants received certificates of achievement. Harry A from F5 was singled out for specific praise due to his commitment and contribution to the day and with the excellent leadership skills he showed with his peers. I was delighted to present him with his award in this morning's assembly.





The idea is that these ambassadors will be the energy that drives progress with the aim to eradicate all bullying in schools. They will train other children in school and their parents and staff too.

Not to be outdone on the stage, Mrs Fernley and her Form 7 charges have been rehearsing hard for many weeks for the first round of their Youth Speaks competition. We've had a dry run of them over the past few weeks and they have all sounded very accomplished. The winning team was made up of Imogen D, Dom W and Dylan W. They received individual "silver" salver plates and also one for the trophy cabinet at school and will go through to the next round which we think might coincide with our trip to see School of Rock in London. We'll do our best to see if we can find an alternative date.

Sadly I missed the first round because I am trying to keep a New Year's Resolution promise to Jo. That is that I will attend ballroom dancing lessons. Missing a week means you miss all the new moves. So far we have worked on the turning waltz and the cha-cha-cha. I'm not a natural but I'm doing my best and have promised the children (and staff) to give them a demo soon. Sadly the video camera will be broken that day! Mrs Sales is our real expert. She takes part in high level competitions and trains incredibly hard to be fit for her challenges. It might be something that we think of doing as a community at school as it's great fun and much harder than I thought. Watch this space!

On the same subject, Jo Sloley, mum of Nathan in F6 and Felix in F2, bravely challenged the staff to a game of hockey this week and wonders if there are any other like-minded parents who might rise to the challenge. I did note that I didn't rate her chances and that she should prepare herself and her team for disappointment as there are more than a few caps right up to international level, especially with the seven ringers I have lined up!

Finally, it has been impossible to avoid political headlines this week. It seems that Brexit really will mean Brexit and there will be no soft option. We will sacrifice our membership of the single market in order to have total control of our borders. The bill will be passed by Parliament because Jeremy Corbyn has recommended his MPs all support the will of the people.

All of this will be temporarily overshadowed by the inauguration of the 45th President of the United States of America. We can all only hold our breath. I can't imagine anybody has the foresight or ability to predict what will actually happen when Donald Trump takes control of the world's most powerful country. Like Brexit, you have to accept the democratic process and do your best to be positive and make it work.

Wishing you an excellent frosty weekend ahead

Mr John Thorpe
Headmaster

Fledglings News

Welcome to our newest member of Fledglings enjoying baby sensory and heuristic play.



Fun with a sensory messy play activity



What's been happening in Nursery?

The children have been exploring bears.

They have made moveable bears and Polar bears, using a variety of mediums and resources.

We have enjoyed a bear hunt and a picnic in the woods.



Canford Cricketing Opportunity

Canford are offering a cricket coaching course Wednesday 5th - Friday 7th April 2017. It is for experienced cricketers in Forms 5 to 7.

There are limited spaces available. More information can be found at

www.canford.com/cricketcourse

Please book your place on-line

canfordcricketcourse.evenbrite.co.uk

Sports News

U13a Netball Tournament at Bryanston

Results:

V FSM 4 - 4

V Twyford 1 - 8 (loss)

V West Hill Park 2 - 1 (won)

V Castle Court 3 - 2(won)

V Hazlegrove 1 - 4 (loss)

Bowl Competition: Semi v Port Regis 6 - 3 (won)

Final v Chafyn Grove 4 - 8 (loss)



A great day of high quality netball with 24 schools competing in the U13 competition.

Considering how little netball we have played the girls did amazingly well to finish 3rd in the group after the section matches.

Their effort was second to none. We should have beaten FSM in the first game with 80% of the play. A lot of pressure descends on the shooters and we missed a lot of chances near to the post. Our heaviest defeat was against Twyford who were the overall winners, so no shame in that. When we moved into the right space our passing from defence to attack was fast and accurate. Sometimes we went too fast and gave the ball away needlessly. With only 8 mins of play you do this and face the consequences.

Fifi, Hannah, Joni and Merry stepped up to the mark in defence, coping with the speed of the opposition's attack. Olivia worked hard as centre and deservedly was awarded our player of the tournament. Teisha and Orlagh had to be competitive in the D and they had good service from Olivia and Carmen. They worked extremely well together, passing to create an easier shot. Overall a fantastic experience for the team and lots of things now to work on.

Contribution award: The whole squad for some great netball.

U12 Netball v Salisbury Cathedral Result: 5-17 win

A cold but sunny afternoon produced a fast flowing game which Sunninghill thoroughly deserved to win.

Led by a determined Izzy at centre, they had the 'competitive' edge and were 4-0 up at the end of the first quarter. After a team talk, they focused on trying not to throw any 'loose' passes. This began to pay dividends and they left to a 10-2 lead by half time. In the 3rd quarter the team focused on their marking - Katie and Tilly leading the way in defence. Erin and Hannah shared the goal scoring equally - although neither had the confidence to shoot from long range! Imogen and 'the two Lilys' all played their part including making several interceptions.

I was impressed with the improvement in their Netball skills and their ability to gel together as a team.

Contribution award: Erin for some excellent approach play and shooting.

U11/U10 Boys Hockey v Castle Court

This was a game of three halves with a mixed U11/10 team playing against bigger and stronger opposition.

We lost the first third 2-0, the second third 2-1 and the final third 3-0.

During the match Henry T started spitting blood. At first I thought it was in anger but it transpired his tooth had come out and lodged in his gum shield whence it remained.

With just a week of hockey under their belts, the boys did really well and battled right to the end. With a few more hitting and trapping skills they will progress rapidly, especially if they remember to keep their sticks much closer to the ground.

The contribution award is shared between three valiant competitors.

Lawrence G really impressed in goal. Stanley W showed some great stick skills and Robert C drove his team on in his now customary way.



U13/12A Boys Hockey v Castle Court ***Result: 1-8 loss***

Sunninghill started the game very organised and full of energy.

Defending was strong with Dylan and Peter clearing the defensive areas. Some excellent passing was displayed by Harry and Kieran, enabling Ben and James to put pressure on

Castle Court's defence and the latter scoring a brilliant goal. Sunninghill dominated play in the first half and were unfortunate not to go ahead in the score. In the second half Sunninghill suffered a loss in concentration and communication which helped give Castle Court momentum.

Unfortunately the team conceded five goals through corners so the team has to work hard on their set piece defending next week.

Contribution award goes to James for his brilliant attacking skills and work rate.

U12/13B v Castle Court ***Result: 0-5 win***

Fortunately the sun came out and the match was able to go ahead on the all-weather pitch. Sunninghill passed the ball around the pitch better, resulting in Aman and Thomas scoring excellent goals. The team looked well organised. Strong defending from Jamie, Cal and Brooke meant Castle Court could not get much ball possession in the penalty area. An all-round solid team performance. Well done!

Contribution award goes to Thomas S for his excellent shooting skills.

Form 4 have been writing poems in English and Mrs King would like to share Mia's great piece of work.

SNAIL SISTER

I had a sister who had a dream
Which was to be a snail,
So, for a shell,
She used an upturned pail!
So I said, "you'll have to eat,
All your vegetables!"
She said, "Na, I'll live on sugar beet,
And sugar cane as well!"
And so she does,
She lives her life,
On sugar beet and cane,
Whilst I eat my horrid veg,
It's just not fair,
It makes me go insane!

Mia W.

PTFA News

The Sunninghill PTFA is currently planning the events to be organised this year. To assist us in making sure we organise events that the parents want, could you please spend a few minutes answering 7 short questions on our survey?

The link to the survey is:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KN7M2CP>

All responses will be kept confidential and the PTFA will just use the information for planning purposes.

Thank you for your support.

Sunninghill PTFA

Letters this week:

Form 8 CE Registrations
Form 8 Field Trip

Lost and Found

Polina (Form 3) has lost her named PE red sweater.

Iris (Form 1) has lost her named SPS hat. Missing since last week.

Samuel L and George P (Form 1) have lost their named school jumpers.

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 and please take them to your local charity shop.

With thanks
Lydia

Dates for your Diaries - Jan 2017

All sports fixtures are on the school website

Mon 23rd Form 3 Trip to Maiden Castle
Thurs 26th Vocal Workshop @ Millfield
Form 8 Geography CE Field trip
Forms 3 & 4 After School Skiing
Fri 27th Forms 5 & 6 LAMDA @ SPS
Form 7 Maiden Castle Care Home
Form 8 Holocaust Memorial Event, Corn Exchange
Toddler Group, School Hall
Form 1 Skiing

Form 8 responsibilities Autumn Term:

Head Boy: Harry Young
Head Girl: Meredith Perry

Sports: Teisha Barrey &
Kieran Williams

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 Horton, Charlie
Blake & Xan Airy

Drama: Joni Denne-Loader & Millie
Durkin-Jones

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

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