

Hermes

3rd February 2017

Spring Term

Issue No. 413

“Doris is on her way!”



U13 Football Team Shot

Dear Parents

Wet and windy weather has certainly been the feature of this week. It has been a long time since we've seen rain of such intensity and it has been badly needed.

For much of the winter the local rivers have been at summer lows. We have really been in need of a good flush to clean away winter debris and begin to fill up the aquifers.

On Tuesday we welcomed parents of Form 5 children to their consultation evening. This first year of the senior part of school is such an important platform for us all. Ahead of 11+ exams in Form 6 and 13+ exams in F8 we begin to build up a reliable set of academic baseline data that we can use to inform a whole range of options and decisions. It seemed to run very smoothly with not too many parents left waiting in long queues to see a particular member of staff.

This transition from Form 4 to Form 5 can be sometimes tricky though Mrs Smith offers every single one of them undivided care and attention to make sure they are all happy, full of the joys of life and making great progress with their learning.

Whilst there are regular parents' meetings scheduled on our calendar, please do remember that you can come and chat to any of us at any time should you wish to discuss any matter. The easiest way to contact us is to log on to the parent portal and click on the email of the member of staff you wish to contact. Send a quick message and we will get right back to you.

Staying with Form 5, I deliberately spend a significant proportion of my academic time with them as their maths teacher. They are very lively learners with a huge amount of energy and enthusiasm to be channelled. Like most of their peers of this age and stage, they are not always great at listening and their focus and concentration can waver. To provide a real life learning experience I decided to give them the test of making their own bread with very few verbal instructions, just specific instructions to follow. Each had a loaf of bread to make and some salty butter to put on top.



It was quite remarkable to see how this task engaged them and how the practical and physical nature really appealed to them. I don't think they realised what good exercise five minutes of kneading is.

It also follows another of our learning objectives in that we try to make learning cross-curricular. As well as weighing and measuring, looking at temperature and time, we inevitably covered a lot of science talking about the function of yeast, respiration, chemical changes and much more.

If the proof of the pudding is in the eating they did really well. All twenty loaves were a great success and tasted superb.

Staying with Form 5 maths we have also spent quite a bit of time playing darts this week, courtesy of Harry A who suggested it would be really good fun and great for our mental arithmetic skills. He was right!



Harry practicing!

Looking ahead to next week the PTFA have organised a Valentine's disco next Friday 10th February starting with Nursery to Form 2 from 3pm, Form 3 and 4 from 4pm and Form 5 to Form 8 from 5pm. There are posters around the school advertising the event. Please do your best to support this new event.

I have another worthy event to advertise at this point. The lovely Miah family are having another curry evening to support the hospital trust that has done amazing things with Reuben. More than a few of you joined their previous evenings at Puddletown; Jo

and I included as we love a good curry. This time they are going to hold the event in the school hall on Saturday 4th March, starting at 7pm.

In Friday's assembly we talked about team work and the joy of working together. We watched a clip of how ants manage to move enormous loads by working together. My research told me that there are two million ants for every person.

I was also delighted to award Tallulah T the school's very first gold badge of the year. You need to get 150 house points to earn this badge. Tallulah has only been with us since September but has set the school alight with her array of talents. The next badge on her hit list is the Headmaster's Award which needs 250 house points. Last year I think just four children got this far. I'm hoping we'll reach six this year, though it will be quite costly in diamonds and platinum!



Tallulah proudly showing off her badge

At the end of this week we held our spring term open day. Despite Hurricane Doris threatening to spoil the day, some seven new families and a number of existing parents joined us for the morning. Form 5s, the undoubted busiest children of the week, were excellent tour guides.

Fledglings News

Fledglings have been celebrating the Chinese New Year, Year of the Rooster



A few of our Form 5 tour guides



Some of our touring parents

Finally, with just a week to go before half term I'm sure lots of you are nervously watching the snow reports. Just like our rivers have been lacking water, the Alps don't seem to have had their usual amount of snowfall. With fingers crossed, I do see the long term weather forecast offers a glimmer of hope with snow on the way. Hopefully it will all come right before we head off.

Have a lovely weekend.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'John Thorpe'.

Mr John Thorpe
Headmaster



Nursery and Reception News

Last week Nursery and Reception celebrated the Chinese Lunar New Year in style, we had a story read by Mrs Liu, had an amazing Chinese Banquet and ushered in the year of the Rooster by repeating traditional rhymes, dancing and made a rooster from a spoon.... 'Cock-a-doodle-do'.



This week the building site is proving very popular in trying to keep the big bad wolf out!



Some busy builders



Ensuring it is level!

Milton Abbey Debating Competition: Years 7 and 8

The group did very well at the debating competition yesterday which was attended by nine other teams.

After a workshop, they prepared for the debate as a team and the competition was adjudicated by the head of Milton Abbey, Magnus Bashaarat. The criteria were coherence of argument, persuasiveness and quality of rebuttal.



Planning their debate

In their debate against Castle Court, Erin, Imogen and Khalid proposed the motion: "This house believes that school holidays should be extended." They won this debate and, despite his personal opposition to this motion, Mr Bashaarat judged them best team of the competition owing to the "colour and conviction" of their speeches.



In-depth debating

PTFA News

It's that time of year again, when cupid takes out his bow and love is in the air. It is also the fabulous excuse for a school disco. On Friday 10th February, the PTFA has arranged for the children to have a Valentines disco, a perfect way of unwinding and letting of some steam after a very busy half term. The start and finish times for the Disco are as follows;

15.00-16.00 Reception, Form 1 and Form 2
(Please can parents accompany this age group)

16.00-17.00 Form 3 and Form 4

17.00-19.00 Form 5, Form 6, Form 7 and Form 8.

The cost of the disco is £2 per child, plus £1 for the tuck shop, where sweets will be available to purchase. Please can children bring their water bottles, although cups of water will also be available for all of those thirsty dancers? Children will be allowed to bring in their disco clothes to change into at the end of the day and time will be given to all of those who wish to make themselves look glamorous (you too Mr Thorpe!).

We are looking for parents to help supervise during the disco, so please if you think that you may be able to help, even if it is just for your child's age group, then please contact me at necmoore@hotmail.com.

During first break on Friday 10th February we shall also be holding a Valentines Cake sale,

so please can you all dust off your cookery books, and don your aprons and bake up a storm. In doing so, you will be helping us to raise funds for enriching your child/children's school life. Please can you bring your delicious baked goods into the dining room on Friday morning and I shall collect them. It's such a simple thing, but if we all pull together, we shall be making such a difference. I look forward to seeing you all at the disco.

Many thanks

Natasha Buchan-Moore (PTFA Chairwoman)

Music News



This week all children in forms 1-6 have taken their individual LAMDA exams.

Form 6 have also taken their Grade 1 group devising drama examination. Altogether, there have been 119 exams and everyone has come out smiling! Thank you very much to all everyone (teachers, parents and of course the children) for working so hard and being so well prepared.

The results should arrive at school before we break up at the end of this term.

Music lessons- week 6

As forms 5-8 are off up to London next Thursday to see 'School of Rock', we have had to change some of our instrumental teaching days:

Steve Garden (guitar) is not in next week,

Lesley Nolan-stone (woodwind and piano) will be in on Tuesday and Thursday mornings

Kate Hawes (violin and string group) will be in on Wednesday

Sally Stell ('cello) will be in on Wednesday

There will be no Wind Band next week.

Please see the website and music noticeboard for more information.

Thank you!

Thanks
Mrs Moss

Sports News

U8 Netball v Salisbury Cath Result: 4 - 0 Loss

Salisbury brought a strong squad of players who dominated the play from the start. SPS tried hard but were unable to get the ball in to their attacking circle in the first quarter. Luckily, Salisbury were unable to score.

A rotation of positions meant that Salisbury had stronger shooters who managed to score 2 goals. We did manage to get the ball up the court a little better but had no shots. In the next quarter our passing improved and we had some chances to score but Salisbury scored a further goal. The final quarter was our strongest with players moving into space a little better and marking more effectively. Salisbury scored 1 more goal to leave the final score at 4 - 0.

Contribution Award - Betty for 'getting stuck in' and enjoying herself!

U9 Netball v Salisbury Cath Result: 1 - 10 Loss

The under 9 team played Salisbury at home. Salisbury had a very strong team and our team was a little awestruck initially allowing Salisbury to score 5 goals within a few minutes! Luckily we soon woke up and considerably improved our game. Mia positioned herself well on court and made some good interceptions and Molly scored a goal.

Contribution award: Mia for excellent determination on court.

U10 Netball v Bournemouth CS Result: 3 - 1 Win

The U10 Girls had a match against Bournemouth Collegiate School on Wednesday. With a few absentees, we were down to 6 players but with a little help from some of the Form 6 girls, we put on a great game.

The first quarter went well, with our girls getting into their stride quickly and taking control. Nikita, Freya and Giselle showed good passing down the court into our Goal D but poor footwork often meant the ball went to the opposition. Gemma and Erin played really well in defence, working to intercept their passes and marking their players tightly so at half time we were ahead 2-0.

We made a few changes to the girls' positions at half time which seemed to lift our game a bit. The girls worked hard on dodging and making spaces to pass into, and it was particularly pleasing to see them thinking about passing on the move after working hard on that in practise. The game ended 3-1, a good win for the girls though with more accurate footwork, there could have been a lot more goals.

Contribution award goes to Gemma for her consistent efforts and accurate passing.

U11 Netball v Bournemouth CS Result: 11 - 4 Win

The U11 netball team took on Bournemouth Collegiate School this week at Redland's, fortunately which saved us all getting soaked! The girls made a great starts, dominating the game and passing cleanly down the court to each other. Mrs Wilson's work on dodging and passing this week had obviously paid off and by the end of the first quarter we were ahead 3-0.

BCS rallied in the second quarter and started marking us more tightly. The girls had to work harder to keep the ball but Verity, Lily and Lily in the midfield kept moving and passing cleanly. Olivia played well in defence, intercepting lots of their passes into the D and getting the rebound and by half time the score was 5-2.

After a few position changes at half time, the girls pulled ahead again. Poppy showed she had some brilliant shooting from the edge of the D and Lily R and Lily B both had a turn as Goal Attack and added to our score line.

The girls showed great team work, with everyone one of them contributing to the end result of 11-4 which is a fantastic win for Sunninghill.

Contribution award goes to Lily R for her great effort throughout the game

U9 Hockey v Salisbury Cath Result: 0 - 3 Loss

The boys started the game strong after a long journey to Salisbury. Sunninghill passed the ball around the pitch much better, putting a lot of pressure on Salisbury early on. Salisbury scored two goals on the counter attack which was unfortunate as Sunninghill were completely dominating the game. Sunninghill tried to get back into the game with some brilliant attacks from Valentine, William and Gethyn but could not get past the goal keeper.

Contribution award goes to Orlando for his hard work and excellent passing.

U13/12A Football v Sandroyd Result: 3 - 2 Win



A happy coach

Sunninghill played a high pressing game trying to put Sandroyd on the back foot early on. Excellent passing from Aman, Ben and Jordi ensured the team used the width of the pitch which helped create chances. Excellent goals were scored from Kieran and Cal. The defenders and goal keepers kept their concentration at the end of the game to make sure Sandroyd did not equalise.



Half time team talk

Contribution awards go to Sebastian and Charlie for their hard work and determination.

U11/10A Hockey v Dumpton Result: 2 - 0 Win

Sunninghill dominated the play from the off. It was ten minutes before Dumpton entered the Sunninghill half. It did however take a while to break down a very good Dumpton defence and the final score did not reflect our possession.

Archie was relieved of goalkeeping duties at half time having not touched the ball or having been made to attempt a save. Gabriel was equally underused in the second half. Positional play was excellent. Nathan and Henry ran the wings with confidence. Henry and Tom controlled the back with Tom making superb passes out from defence. Robert scared the defence and also helped out in defence.

An excellent all round team effort and a well deserved 2-0 win.

Contribution award to Tom for his control, vision and passing from defence.

U11/10B Hockey v Dumpton

Result: 2 - 3 Loss

Dumpton began the game with a strong squad and Sunninghill struggled in the first 10 minutes to get the ball away from their half. A few short corners for Dumpton and it was a 3 goal lead. However, confidence grew and the ball spent more time in the Dumpton half with excellent stick skills from Stanley (two goals) with superb support from Tymon who began to turn away from his markers beautifully and then passing the ball into space. Ben was all over the field in attack and defence and always seemed in the right place at the right time. He was well supported by William. Lawrence was solid in defence with Toby and Josh making their mark too. Contribution award goes to Daniel for his amazing antics in goal keeping a clean sheet in the second half and running out at any Dumpton attackers.

Lost and Found

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 - Feb 2017

All sports fixtures are on the school website

Mon 6th Form 3 Effort Grades on Portal this week
Thurs 9th Forms 5-8 School of Rock Musical
Forms 3 & 4 Skiing Club
Informal music concert in drawing room
Fri 10th Form 1 Assembly - All parents welcome
Parent and Toddler
Form 1 Skiing
Form 6 Swimming at Milton Abbey
Form 8 Flying Start
Form 5 Milton Abbey Care Home
PTFA Valentine Disco

***Form 8 responsibilities
Autumn Term:***

Head Boy:	<i>Harry Young</i>
Head Girl:	<i>Meredith Perry</i>
Sports:	<i>Teisha Barrey & Kieran Williams</i>
Outdoor Ed:	<i>Bonnie Davenport & James Cook</i>
English:	<i>Brook Michael-Beale</i>
Maths:	<i>Elliot Raybould & Teisha Barrey</i>
Science:	<i>Jamie Barrington</i>
Humanities:	<i>Peter Message</i>
Art:	<i>Rachel Williams-Schoeller & Hannah Stanhope</i>
IT:	<i>Brook Michael-Beale, Jacob Horton, Charlie Blake & Xan Airy</i>
Drama:	<i>Joni Denne-Loader & Millie Durkin-Jones</i>
Citizenship:	<i>Oliver Shutt & Fifi Collet</i>
Library:	<i>Alexander Valadais Marques</i>

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