

Hermes

24th February 2017

Spring Term

Issue No. 415

“Dippy comes to town!”



Dear Parents

I hope you have all had a wonderful half term break and that your children have returned happily to school.

My holiday went really well up until the point my lovely wife decided to use me for target practice at the bottom of a ski run at the head of the Chamonix Valley. A slide backwards ensued followed by buckled knees and a trip to the local medic and an early curtailment to one of my favourite weeks of the whole year, with the rest of my holiday spent in plaster.

I haven't had this confirmed first hand, but I believe I may not be the only adult to suffer such a fate. More on this when I have first-hand info.

Worse still is that I'm unlikely to be fit for our staff Three Peak's fund raising challenge in May, can't walk Molly and am generally fairly out of action.

Thankfully there has been lots on in school to keep my mind (if not my body) fully occupied.

It was great to see the first floor corridor in the senior school get a professional refurbishment over the holidays. It really does look fantastic. Form 3 and 4's also got new bag and shoe racks to help them keep their corridor clean and tidy. This creation was the handy work of Les and Ray - our very own dynamic duo. Form 1 and 2 now want them so they are going to be very busy.

After a few weeks off school, it was great to welcome Lydia back. After a period of recuperation, Lydia is back part time and will gradually build back up to being with us full time in the next few weeks. Lydia glues many parts of our school day together and you only realise what she does when she doesn't, if you get my drift?

On Tuesday we welcomed Form 8 parents and pupils for their final consultation evening of their Sunninghill careers. With scholarships and CE ahead, there was lots to talk about. I'm very pleased with the progress they are all making and in the mature way they are approaching the toughest exams of their lives thus far.

Next week is the turn of Nursery to Form 2 parents who will meet up with their form teachers to get an update on some of our youngest learners.

Whilst there isn't a Form 7 parents' evening this term, I do encourage all parents who haven't yet confirmed a first choice senior school to come and have a cup of tea with me this term so I can help smooth the process along.

On Wednesday I had a most exciting meeting concerning an unusual visitor to Dorchester next year. Reception parent Heather Ray and Anjana Ford (from the Jurassic Coast Trust) came to tell me about the impending arrival of Dippy the Diplodocus who currently abides in the main hall at the Natural History Museum. Dippy is going on his (her?) travels and will be at Dorchester County Museum in 2018. Families will even be able to spend a night sleeping at the museum. Anjana has the ambitious goal of wanting every child in the local area to be able to see Dippy. What a great challenge!



On Thursday I was taken completely out of my comfort zone in helping to produce a promotional video for KDUK that is aimed at inspiring other communities to match the efforts invested by Kate Hopps and Karen Woollam. I just had twenty seconds of air time to fill. It was really tricky and I am certain I was far from a natural, and certainly won't be giving up my day job, unless Adam Henson from Countryfile is taken ill, in which case I'll be there straight away!

For her birthday Holly asked for money from her friends and family. Not unusual you might think until you hear of the destination of the money. Holly wanted to help look after the education of a child less well off than herself and used the money to sponsor a child through Action Aid. What a fantastic thing to do for one so young!

Despite all this I was delighted to help.

I can't think of a better moment to end my editorial on!

A big part of having charitable status is to make sure we have public accountability and that we contribute to public benefits in different ways. On this front I was delighted to offer the Miah family our community hall for a fundraising evening that will benefit the local hospitals that have helped in the amazing care and attention given to Reuben. On Saturday 4th March there will be a curry evening at school, all cooked by Karl. Many parents joined the family two years ago at a similar do in Puddletown. I really hope you will turn out in great numbers to support them. Tickets are available from Lydia or Eileen. Children are welcome.

Wishing you a lovely weekend ahead.

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

Mr John Thorpe
Headmaster

I'll stay on the subject of charities for a moment longer.

Fledglings News

"Spot the Fledgling!"

I had a visit from Holly K this week. She's a lovely poppet from Form 3 who loves to swim and dance and is rarely to be found without her friends and a big smile on her face. She also has a really big heart.



“Fledglings experimenting with texture and colour”



Nursery News

We have been looking at the story Jack and the Beanstalk.

This week the children have been planting beans and sunflowers and have enjoyed watering them every couple days and they look forward to seeing them grow.



They have been outside and enjoyed mark making using chalk on the end of sticks to draw a beanstalk.

They have all explored taking risks and grown confidence in walking up and down balancing beams (like Jack climbing up the beanstalk!).



We have also been using our fine motor skills by practising cutting.



Form 1 News

We are holding a cake sale on Friday 3rd March during morning break in aid of Form 1's contribution towards Sunninghill sponsoring the training of a Guide Dog.

There will be delicious yummy cakes to buy (gluten free too.) please support the amazing Form 1 children and their grand effort to help make a difference in somebody's life!

Thank you from Year 1

Freddie in Form 1 has drawn a picture to advertise the cake sale but don't worry the guide dogs will not be eating the cakes!!



We are doing our best but the owner wants it his way and just to leave it as it is. I am going to sort it out!
I will buy healthy food, new beds, blankets and proper clean water.

I hope you are well.

Love from
Florence
(Oscar F)

Dear mother and Father

It is very dirty in this hospital. Rats are chewing the soldiers. The soldiers have no beds but I am doing my best to help them.

The food isn't healthy. There is loads of diseases in this hospital and loads of soldiers that are injured. I am helping the nurses to train to be proper nurses. We are working as a team. I am going to clean the beds and give them healthy food and clean water.

I am talking to the soldiers about their families and sending messages to them.

Love from
Florence
(Leon J)

Form 4 News

Year 4 have been celebrating a 100% pass rate in their LAMDA exams with 13 out of 16 children achieving a Distinction!



Form 2 News

We have started a new topic which is always a favourite! Florence Nightingale.

This week they had to put themselves in Florence's shoes and write a letter home to her parents describing conditions in Scutari hospital. We have some lovely examples of their work below.

Dear mother and father

I am happy here now but when I first arrived it was very dirty. There was only dirty water to drink and there were rats that carried diseases. There were wooden beds that were uncomfy but I am going to change all that. I will cook proper healthy food and I will clean the floors. I will make this a better place.

Love and best wishes
Flo
(Felix S)

Dear Mother and father

It is terrible here! There's poorly soldiers and rats everywhere! The nurses are drunk and the water is dirty and so the soldiers are catching diseases and then they die.

Zuzanna B did exceptionally well, scoring an incredible 100%! Congratulations to all of the class!



Music News

AB Exam Date: Tuesday 28th March at Sunninghill.

The Lamda results are in! They are a fantastic set of results and Sunninghill had over 100 entries. Children were given their certificates in assembly this morning.

It is a great achievement and one that we are very proud of. Thank you to everyone who helped the children achieve such a huge success.



Please be aware that music timetables are being reviewed but please bring in musical instruments as usual and the children will be collected from their class. More information will follow.

PTFA News

Sainsbury's Active Kids is back and with your support now's the time to help even our children to eat well, move well and live well.

On behalf of the PTFA we are asking parents, carers and their families and friends to collect the Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers when they shop or get fuel at Sainsbury's Supermarkets.

These vouchers can be exchanged for free sports or cooking equipment for the school.

Please place your vouchers in the collection box in reception near Lydia's desk.

The promotion runs until 2nd May 2017.

Many thanks in advance

PTFA

Easter Holiday Club

We are pleased to announce that Easter Holiday club will be running for two weeks over the holidays from Monday 3rd April until Friday 7th April and the second week from Monday 10th April until Thursday 13th April.

All booking forms, activities and further information can be found on our website under the link below (information section and then holiday club)

<http://sunninghillprep.co.uk/information/holiday-club/>

In other news.....

Eva, Katy NS, Kitty and Poppy S all did very well at the Exeter Dance Festival which they attended after gaining a 2nd place in their modern dance under 10's group and Kitty achieved 1st place at Weymouth in her solo dance.

This meant that they qualified to take place in The Exeter Dance Festival in the regional final.

Last week they achieved 3rd place with their routine to Backstreets Back in the Modern dance group for under 10's and were awarded medals.

Kitty achieved 3rd place for Classical Solo and 4th place for song and dance. Poppy achieved 4th place for Modern Solo.

There results mean they will go through to the finals in May.



Kitty S has also had an opportunity to take part in a group training session with Beth Tweddle.



Sports News

U89 Red Netball v Castle Court

Result: 2 - 1 Win

The girls started quite slowly and let Castle Court dominate the play and it was 1-0 to them at the end of the first quarter. Each player changed positions and SPS played much better in the second quarter with more awareness of where their opponent was on the court. Getting free was difficult and lots of our passes went to the opposition.

In the third quarter, after a stern team talk, SPS really started to get free to receive a pass and were able to move the ball nicely up the court. This led to a lovely goal by Polina. Everyone was thrilled that we had scored. In the final quarter Bea and Poppy worked brilliantly together and managed to pass the ball between them up the pitch. Bea then threw an accurate pass in to Betty in the shooting circle and she took her time and scored a goal. The final score was 2-1 to SPS. Well done girls.

Contribution Award - Poppy for some excellent interceptions and marking.

U9 Yellow Netball v Castle Court

Result: 1 - 3 Loss

The team got off to a flying start with strong passing on court and getting the ball down into the shooting circle. Holly scored the first goal of the match in the second quarter, but Castle Court equalised in the third quarter. Despite our team having many attempts at goal, unfortunately the ball just wouldn't go in!

Castle Court then brought on their "lethal weapon" in the last quarter with a super shooter who proceeded to score two more goals. The final score of 3-1 to Castle Court doesn't truly reflect how close the match was.

The contribution award goes to Indy for superb passing on court.

Milton Abbey X-Country



The X-Country Team

On Tuesday 13 Sunninghill students attended the Milton Abbey Prep Schools' Cross Country Tournament. The course was set in beautiful surroundings but was also very tough with a lot of mud and steep hills. The year 6 girls and boys faced strong competition but all gave it 100%. A special mention must go to Elliot for his brilliant sprint in the last 100 meters. In the year 7 boys race Dylan raced hard and finished in a very respectable 5th place.



Robert finishes strongly

The year 8 boys race was a real battle between James, Jamie and Kieran. All three Sunninghill students were determined to beat each other but it was Jamie that came out on top finishing 4th, Kieran finished 6th and James finished 9th.



Jamie was first home for the senior boys



Dylan having given his all!

Well done to all involved!

U10 Netball v Sandroyd Result: 8 - 7 Win

A last minute switch of venues meant we played away at Sandroyd. With Storm Doris building on the horizon the conditions were going to be difficult for shooting. At the end of the first quarter Sunninghill were leading 3-1.

The girls were rewarded for quick movement, getting into space and excellent shooting from Eleni. The lead increased by half time with Gemma outmanoeuvring her opposite number and Nikita consistently getting to loose balls before anyone. We were now leading comfortably 6-1. The decision over the orange at half time was easy to make to keep the same positions and keep the pressure on Sandroyd. However, seven minutes later we were looking at a 6-6 score line. In the third quarter after a change of positions the machine clicked back into place with Freya the new cog in the middle. A determination to make up for the previous quarter and excellent focus from all ended with Sunninghill winning 8-7 and beans and buns all round.

Sandroyd voted Nikita for the contribution award but Eleni also shares this for her calm shooting under pressure. Well done all!

U11 Netball v Sandroyd **Result: 0 - 11 Loss**

The U11 girls took on Sandroyd this week, at Sandroyd after a last minute change of plans. It was a cold and windy day and Sunninghill still seemed half asleep in the first quarter allowing Sandroyd to quickly take the lead and after the first 7 minutes we were 7-0 down.

A quick change around saw better play in the second quarter and Tallulah and Olivia did some fantastic defending and intercepting. The girl's footwork had improved a great deal and there was some nice passing between Lily R, Lily B and Verity. The wind made shooting difficult and Poppy and Freda missed a few shots but we only conceded 3 more goals in the second quarter and went to half time at 10-0.

The second half saw some much stronger defending play from Sunninghill and Amalia and Tallulah worked well together in the D preventing any further goals from being scored. Freda played well, dodging and passing quickly and accurately with Lily and Lily. No goals were scored in the third quarter and only one conceded in the fourth taking the final score to 11-0 which didn't

represent the level of play in the second half. The girls worked hard and should be proud of their play in the second half.

Contribution award goes to Tallulah for excellent defending and backline passes.

U12 Netball v Sandroyd **Result: 2 - 18 Loss**

This was a tough game as the opposition were mainly Year 8 girls - and very tall ones! We struggled to keep up with their fast pace and they were 9 - 0 ahead after the first quarter. We were better in the next quarter, a little more determined to win the ball in defence, making more accurate passes to find our GS Hannah in the D. We scored one goal to Sandroyd's 3 so good effort from everyone. Erin and Izzy worked hard and Imogen swapped into the defence.

Everyone kept going and we won the last quarter scoring our 2nd goal. Even though the opposition were good we failed to execute the basics at times; think and do the simple things. A tough afternoon but well done for persevering and hopefully learning in order to improve.

Contribution award goes to Izzy for her effort and hard work as Centre.

U12 Hockey v Clayesmore **Result: 0 - 8 Loss**

Sunninghill faced a tough Clayesmore U13 team. The players worked extremely hard and were unfortunate to concede two goals in the first half especially after Dylan and Lucas created decent chances in the Clayesmore defensive area.

Unfortunately Sunninghill ran out of steam in the second half and Clayesmore scored some excellent goals.

The team's performance was encouraging although the players have got to get fitter. It was great to have Dominic return from injury and a special mention must go to Khalid for his brilliant goal keeping, making some extraordinary saves.

Contribution award goes to Will for his improved hockey skills and Khalid for his brilliant goal keeping.

Lost and Found

Holly K Form 3 is missing her Games bag, please can you check that you have the correct bags.

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.

Dates for your Diaries - Feb/Mar 2017

All sports fixtures are on the school website

Tues 28th Model United Nations
Thurs 2nd Form 3 Fleet Air Museum
Club Forms 5 -8 Skiing Club
Millfield Dance Workshop
Fri 3rd Parent and Toddler
Form 2 Skiing
Maiden Castle Care Home Visit Form 5

Form 8 responsibilities Spring 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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