

Hermes

17th January 2020

Spring Term

Issue No. 514

It's been a windy one!



Taking cover from Storm Brendan

Dear Parents

A very warm welcome to Hermes.

Storm Brendan has occupied much of our thoughts this week. Wet and dreary best describes our heartbeat.

There was a time when January meant sub-zero weather conditions, a woolly cap, an early morning frosty dog walk and a regular chance of a smattering of snow every now and then.

That is a distant memory from childhood now and standard winter conditions could better be categorised as wet and mild. We are at the mercy of the many germs that thrive in these conditions.

It will come as no surprise to hear that absence from school has been higher than usual with sickness, poorly stomachs and chesty coughs, popular ailments amongst children and staff. Even some of our most resilient staff have succumbed to some bug or other. I can't remember the last time Mrs Sales was ill. She still came to school and was

determined to do her shift though we had to send her home. Monday assembly resembled a rookery of barking seal pups.

Whilst these conditions make us adults feel a bit fed up, puddles, rain and heaps of mud are the stuff of dreams for young children, who find every opportunity to wallow in said mires. We do our best to try to keep them clean but mud is one of earth's natural gravitational fields. Wellies are a must, methinks!

Our wonderful cleaning staff seem to take all this very much in their stride and no amount of mud in the corridors seem to dampen their spirits. They are real heroes! The same cannot be said for their emotions towards the toilet habits of small boys, but you are likely to be reading this prior to your Friday supper and I don't want to ruin your appetite. Wellies are a must methinks (again)!

Moving on quickly before I get side tracked, I was delighted to see that we managed to deliver our promise of making the recording of the Nativity available to you this week. I am indebted to Mrs Sleightholme's talented husband Duncan for his wizardry behind the camera and with his editing skills afterwards.



On Tuesday, Eileen, Mandy and I went to a joint Sherborne, Yeovil and Dorchester business breakfast with over one hundred local business leaders. Our main aim at this gathering was to bring our commercial activities to the attention of local businesses so we can continue to increase these activities

that indirectly support our ambitious educational investment program.

In last week's Hermes I wrote about the sad passing of one of Sunninghill's revered headmistresses, Miss Norton. It has come to my attention this week that a memorial service has been planned at 2pm on Friday 24th April at All saints Church, Brenscombe Park, Polle. There is an open invite for all members of our community to attend.

Elsewhere in school a small cohort in Form 8 have important scholarship exams at the forefront of their minds this term. For them, this is perhaps the most important academic challenge of their lives so far. Suffice to say they have been working to the very best of their abilities, ably supported by their teachers.

This is a good opportunity to remind parents in Form 6 that it is never too early to organise to meet me to chat about your preferred choice of school post Form 8.

In the distant past the school used to run summer expeditions to Rua Fiola and we are getting ready for a similar foray for the first time in many years. In preparation for a walk on the wild side, we have been engaged in some fly-casting practice at school. It is a particularly taxing pursuit, which requires hundreds of hours of practice though you have to start somewhere, no matter how tricky it is. There is thankfully no known remedy for this very addictive hobby!



Connecting with our food and learning to forage will be an integral part of the trip. We are hoping that 6-8 of our most resilient and hardy senior children from Forms 5 to 8 will sign up. Letters will be sent home shortly outlining the details.



Finally, next week sees Class Reps gathering on Thursday 23rd January for our first meeting of the New Year. I am still hoping a parent from Reception and Form 7 will step forward. Kerry provides us with a very tasty breakfast if that is sufficient to entice you?

Have a wonderful weekend.

John Thorpe

Mr John Thorpe
Headmaster

Nursery & Reception

Nursery and Reception had a lovely afternoon outside in the sandpit, making and decorating their very own castles!



This is to coincide with our Traditional Tales topic where the children have shown a real interest in looking at and making castles.

Form 1

Have been enjoying dressing up for their new topic, traditional tales.





Form 3

Following on from last week's assembly, Mrs King has one more poem to share with you. Millie, Hamish and Elodie have shared some fantastic poems.

Green

Green makes me feel free,
It tastes like cooking apples ready for making
a warm pie for a cold winter's day.
It makes me think of nature
It is deep in colour.
Green sounds like bird songs in spring time.
It is like a pine tree at its best.
Green is the colour of bamboo from Asia.
The eucalyptus of Australia
And the dense jungles of Africa.
It is the colour of seaweed in the Caribbean.

Elodie



Form 7

This week in Science, Form 7 have made and discussed the properties of non-Newtonian fluids.



Form 8

In their Science lesson Form 8 presented their Christmas holiday projects about Light and Sound waves to the rest of the class.





Clara L	Prep Test Violin
James S	Prep Test Piano
Kitty T	Grade 1 Violin
Anna W	Grade 2 Violin with Distinction
Katy NS	Grade 2 Violin with Merit
Polina	Grade 3 Violin

Think of the Week

If the answer is "Once with a fish", what is the question?



Hockey Tour

On Friday a mixed team of Form 8's went on a hockey tour. The first stop was All Hallows School in Somerset.

Both teams played fantastic hockey throughout the match which All Hallows won 3-1. After our fixture the children went to the cinema to watch 'Spies in Disguise'.

In the evening we checked into the Premier Inn and went out for a curry.

On Saturday morning we travelled to Warminster and played against Warminster School. Sunninghill lost their first match 4-2 but won the second match 2-0.

The team improved a lot throughout the weekend and enjoyed their time!

Huge well done to all the participants for their impeccable attitude.

Music

We look forward to all music clubs starting this week.

Congratulations to all pupils who took ABRSM music exams last term, another fantastic set of results.

PTFA

PTFA are looking forward to hosting the school **Disco** on **Friday 31 January**, you'll see posters popping up around school conveying the details. Tunes and entertainment will flow for an afternoon of fun for all the students. Games and dancing will be part of the rota for the Junior Prep Disco as in years past, with the Senior Prep Disco pumping out the latest tunes. This is the annual PTFA event that receives the most positive response from the students....who often ask to have a Disco every term....so we look forward to seeing all on the dancefloor.

LOCATION

Dining Room

JUNIOR PREP DISCO 3pm to 5pm

3.00pm to 4.00pm Nursery, Reception and Form 1

4.00pm to 5.00pm Forms 2, 3 & 4

SENIOR PREP DISCO 5pm to 7pm

5.00pm to 7.00pm Forms 5, 6, 7, 8

7.00pm Senior Prep disco finishes

ENTRANCE

£1 entry on the door per student,
Water, squash and fruit bowl will be available

DRESS CODE

Own clothes, disco gear

Parents, you're welcome to join, I know this was popular last year, especially with the younger years' parents. We'll have some teas and coffees running throughout.

CALL FOR PARENT VOLUNTEERS

To make this year's Disco another great event, we are looking for Parent Volunteers to help decorate and set up, to serve refreshments throughout the event and to clear up towards the end so that the space is ready for Monday morning. We will organise ourselves on a rota basis so if you can give an hour or two to help decorate the space, keep the water/squash/fruit and teas/coffees refreshed, and wrap up at the end that will be great. Set up and decorating will start from 2pm. Please be in touch with Lynn for more info via email to lynn@strover.biz

Looking forward to the fun!

PTFA

Gardening News



A warm and sunny start to the gardening year. Sowing sweet peas, winter lettuce and spinach.

The children also enjoyed a walk along the secret woodland path on the other side of the field



Open Morning

We are now taking bookings for our first Open Morning of 2020. If you know of anyone who would like to tour our lovely school and meet the team please do get in touch.



Sports

Team: U10 Hockey
Against: Castle Court
Venue: Home
Result: 7 – 0 Win

We played Castle Court with the minimum of players. Freddie made his debut in goal but didn't see much action.

We played well as a team, with Alexander controlling the midfield and scoring two or three goals. Max played well harassing defender and scoring also. Charlie also scored. Everyone played very well and in different positions.

Contribution Award: Alexander for such a great game.

Team: U11 Hockey
Against: Castle Court
Venue: Home
Result: 1 – 8 Loss

We played a strong Castle Court team who moved the ball around very efficiently. The game was pretty even up until half time when they scored a breakaway goal. We battled really well in midfield but Castle Court scored a couple of very quick good goals.

Will BK made some very good saves keeping the score line down. Archie had two or three attempts on goal and scored a good goal. Sam and James defended well making good clearances.

Contribution Award: Will BK for great goal keeping!

Team: U12/13 A Hockey
Against: Castle Court
Venue: Away
Result: 4 – 4 Draw

We started the match with great enthusiasm and moved the ball with accurate long passes. Valentine managed to find Gethyn and William easily on the flanks who moved the ball into the D. Gethyn and Tymon scored excellent goals before Castle Court scored just before half time due to a lack of focus.

After the break Sunninghill lost their shape and pressing intensity. Castle Court made full use of the space and scored two goals within minutes. Gabriel played well in midfield and

started to control the game from the centre of the pitch. Gethyn was hungry for goals and scored two more goals near the end of the game. The match finished with a screamer hit from Castle Court which meant the match ended 4-4.

A great first match but the team needs to remember their positions and maintain their concentration throughout.

Contribution Award: Gethyn for his tenacity and hunger for goals.

Team: U12/13 B Hockey
Against: Castle Court
Venue: Away
Result: 4 – 2 Loss

The game remained in a stalemate for much of the first half with neither team able to break the deadlock.

CC then managed to get a couple of quick goals before half time and we started the second half very much on the back foot.

Leo D, playing his first match in goals, made some great saves and Henry B was stalwart in defence.



Contribution Award: Harri W who never stopped running, showed some great stick skills and scored both our goals.

Form 8 Responsibilities for the Spring Term

Head Boy: Harry
Head Girl: Meena
Sports Captains: Gabriel & Megan

Prefects:

ICT: Esme, Josh & Aidan
Art: Eleni & Meena
Music: Lily & Erin
English/Publicity: Freya, Megan & Esme
Drama: Gabriel & Lily
Outdoor Education: Erin & Henry
STEM: Ben & Gemma
Eco: Toby & Daniel
Geography: Tymon
History/RS: Tom & Harry
Languages: Aidan
Food Tech: Tom & Mckenzie

Lydia:
Secretary@sunninghill.dorset.sch.uk
Mandy:
Registrar@sunninghill.dorset.sch.uk
Megan & Jeanette:
receptionist@sunninghill.dorset.sch.uk

South Court, South Walks, Dorchester,
Dorset. DT1 1EB. 01305 262306



PTFA SCHOOL DISCO

Friday 31st January 2020
SPS Dining Room

JUNIOR PREP DISCO 3PM to 5PM

3.00pm to 4.00pm

Nursery, Reception and Form 1

4.00pm to 5.00pm

Forms 2, 3 and 4

SENIOR PREP DISCO 5PM to 7PM

5.00pm to 7.00pm

Forms 5, 6, 7 & 8

ENTRANCE

£1 entry on the door per pupil, entry through the Dining Room door by the Staff Room

DRESS CODE

Your best disco gear!

Lunch Menu

Monday 20th January

Falafel
Roasted Vegetable Cous Cous
Rocket Leaves
Dessert: Sunninghill Shortbread Surprise

Tuesday 21st January

Creamy Chicken Tagliatelle
Vegetarian Option: Creamy Mixed Vegetable Tagliatelle
Dessert: Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Sauce

Wednesday 22nd January

Minced Beef & Vegetables
Vegetarian Option: Quorn Mince & Vegetables
New Potatoes
Yorkshire Puddings
Dessert: Melon Wedges

Thursday 23rd January

Roast Pork
Vegetarian Option: Mushroom, Pepper & Pesto Strudel
Roast Potatoes
Creamy Cabbage
Dessert: Banoffee Pie

Friday 24th January

Mozzarella Dippers & Tangy Tomato Sauce
Herby Diced Potatoes
Tomatoes & Cucumber
Dessert: Crumble with Custard

Weekly Diary

WHOLE SCHOOL DIARY OF EVENTS	20th	Forms 5 & 6 Netball @ Milton Abbey 11.00am-1.00pm Forms 7 & 8 Netball @ St Osmond's 2.50-4.30pm
	21st	U8 & U9 Hockey V Castle Court @ Castle Court 2.15pm
	22nd	Forms 7 & 8 Climbing @ Sherborne Girls 2.00pm U13/U12 Netball V Sherborne Girls @ Sherborne Girls 2.30pm U10/11 Netball V Dumpton (A) @ Dumpton 2.30pm U10 Hockey V Dumpton (A) @ Dumpton 2.15pm U11 Hockey V Dumpton (A) @ Dumpton 2.45pm U12 & U13 Hockey Practice @SPS
	23rd	Class Reps Meeting @ 8.30am Reception & Form 1 Swimming @ 1610 8.30am
	24th	Form 1 Assembly- All parents welcome- Breakfast to follow 8.30am 10.00am-11.30am Parent & Toddler Group Form 8-Holocaust Memorial Poetry @The Corn Exchange 12noon-2.30pm Form 2 Skiing Enrichment @ Warmwell 1.30pm Enrichment & Friday Sports 1.30pm
Letters on the Portal	Menu Fixtures Music Timetable Spring Term Club Letters	
Nursery	Nativity Performance/Sickness & Diarrhoea	
Reception	Nativity Performance	
Form 1	Nativity Performance	
Form 2	Nativity Performance/Form 2 Dry Slope Skiing Enrichment	
Form 3	Nativity Performance/Form 3 Residential 2020	
Form 4	Nativity Performance	
Form 5	No Letters	
Form 6	No Letters	
Form 7	No Letters	
Form 8	Holocaust Memorial Event	