

FROM THE STUDY

Friday 5th February 2010

In Academic terms we are just about half way through the school year and next week sees exams and assessments taking place throughout the school. This is an important week which will provide us with information to judge how well the children are progressing. I don't think I have ever come across a child who genuinely looks forward to taking exams, however, this does not mean to say all our youngsters should be worrying themselves about the challenges that lie ahead. They will all have been given guidance about the exams and certainly about the topics they need to read up on! Just do your best and that's all you can do!!

LOST PROPERTY

I am aware that a number of parents are concerned about the loss of kit and uniform. I can assure you, the staff, also share this concern.

In the Pre-Prep the children get changed in their classroom and have help (where required) and supervision from their teacher and teaching assistant. When they come into the Prep ('Big') school things are different and ideally they get changed in the changing room. It is not possible for the teachers to supervise the children getting changed in the same way as they do in the Pre-Prep. However, the children are aware of our expectations and they have regular instruction about how to get changed, what to do with clothes when they take them off. At the end of every games session the teachers check the changing rooms and collect kit and return it if named. We will always attempt to return lost property without a name but as you can imagine this is not easy. We even have lost property with the names of children who have left some time ago, this uniform/kit is probably from the 'nearly new uniform' sale, could I ask parents to label such clothes with their child's name.

We will continue to review our processes and procedures relating to how the children get changed. We will continue to monitor the way children get changed, we do expect them to be able to get themselves undressed and dressed and put their clothes into their games bags. We realise that some children are more capable than others at being able to get changed efficiently.

However, that is the challenge of Prep School and, with greater responsibility will come the reward of a little more independence as they move through the school. We do encourage the children to do things for themselves, even if at first they struggle. Not all uniform is lost when the children get changed, some is mistakenly taken from a peg by another child, it goes without saying that this should be returned as soon as possible (again, this is much easier to do if everything is named)!

Recently I asked the children to take home everything that they had hanging up in the school. Some pegs had caps/hats, blazers, fleeces, waterproofs, coats and games bags on them. The school was bursting! This does not mean the children can't wear coats or waterproofs but a reminder to take things home that aren't needed.

If any parent has any ideas how the school can improve the way the children get changed in the Prep School, we would like to hear about it.

HEADMASTER'S AWARDS

Congratulations to the following children, Darcey Hicks, Rory Hopkins, George Miller, Henry Miller & Samuel Pryor (KGE) for English, Shanae Wallace (KGM) for English, Nikoletta Croon, Anna Curran, Harry Insley, Tommy O'Connor & Hugo Whitten (1E) for English, Fraser Moss & Rosie Jack (1E) for Science, Tallulah Allen (1P/BS) for Geography, Freddie Bryant (2K) for Reading, William Dobbie (3S) for Maths, Oliver Swainston (4G) for Maths, Olivia Snooks & Charlotte Brown (4P) for Maths, Poppy Allen, Emma Baker, Emily Foreman & Sophia Houston (5G) for English, Alice Aldridge, Gemma Morgan & Emily Scott (6T) for Maths, Ellen Lewis & Taylor Sage (6T) for Science, Katie Gardner & Ralph Stevens (6T) for English. Well done to you all.

POLITENESS & COURTESY CUP

The winner of the Politeness & Courtesy Cup this week is Abbey Grice in Form 1P/BS. Congratulations Abbey.

FORM 6 TRIP TO THE EUROPA CENTRE

On the 22nd January 2010 Form 6 went on a school trip to the Europa centre in Hornchurch. We were split into groups and we got a pretend credit card and some pretend Euros. Then we went around some shops to spend our Euros on some items. We had to go to shops such as the bakers (boulangerie) and the butchers (boucherie). Half way through the tour we had to order some food at the cafe in French. We got the opportunity to eat some French food such as a croissant and a pain au chocolat. While we were eating, we watched a puppet show. Most of us found it difficult to understand it as it was all spoken in French! After that we went around a few more shops such as the cinema (cinema) and the pharmacy (pharmacie). Finally we said thank you to the people who helped us and we left the Europa centre. Thank you Madame Capon for an enjoyable trip.
By Cameron Sheppard.

SAFER INTERNET DAY

Tuesday 9th February 2010

European Safer Internet Day (SID) takes place on Tuesday 9th February. During the week, Prep School pupils will be taking part in a range of activities on the theme: 'Think before you post'. For further information about European Safer Internet Day, please visit www.saferinternetday.org

SPORTS NEWS

FORM 3 & 4 SOCCER V NEW HALL

Unfortunately these matches did not take place because the coach to take us to New Hall did not turn up. The matches have been provisionally re-arranged for Monday 22nd February.

INTER-HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY.

Congratulations to all runners in the inter house cross country races. The senior race last Friday had hail, sleet, snow and sunshine and all pupils worked hard to achieve their best possible positions.

Well done to:

Alice Aldridge	1 st senior girl
Phoebe Wickham	2 nd
Alice Copping	3 rd
Pippa Ritchie	4 th

Matthew Gilham	1 st senior boy
Joe Burton	2 nd
Nathaniel Patten	3 rd
Rory Taylor	4 th

The junior race on Monday saw much more clement conditions and again the effort pupils put in was tremendous.

The individual results were

Sophie Gardner	1 st junior girl
Jessica Whiley	2 nd
Nancy Hebron	3 rd
Olivia Snooks	4 th

Oliver Gravett	1st junior Boy
Nick Gardner	2 nd
Noah Chilvers	3 rd
Elliot Snooks	4 th

The overall house results were

Normans	1 st
Saxons	2 nd
Romans	3 rd
Vikings	4 th .

SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS.

We are once again collecting 'Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers' .Please could you bring into school all your vouchers from your trips to Sainsbury's. Many thanks.

Sally Harbott.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

VIKINGS DUTY WEEK

PREP SCHOOL EXAM WEEK

PRE-PREP ASSESSMENTS

**Thursday 11th Cross Country at Melbourne Park Leave school 2.20pm
Race starts 3.00pm**

**Friday 12th Un 11 Soccer v Elm Green (a) 3.00pm
Un 11 Hockey v Elm Green (h) 3.00pm
Half Term Monday 15th to Friday 19th February
Term re-starts Monday 22nd February**