



6th April 2017

Dear Parents,

As we near the end of another term it is so rewarding to look back over all that has been achieved in so many ways since September. The Academy continues to thrive and this is down to the crucial relationships that are built and sustained between the children, the staff and you as parents. Thank you to all of you who filled in the parent questionnaires at the recent Parents' Evenings. They are overwhelmingly positive and we will be analysing the results to ensure that we are not overlooking any aspect in our continuous bid for excellence.

Have a wonderful Easter break. We look forward to welcoming you and your children back for another exciting and action packed summer term.

With best wishes,
Anne Ratsey

Horsham Primary Schools Dance Festival 2017

Dancers delight audience at the first revival of 'Dancetime'. Many parents, teachers and head-teachers were treated to some spectacular performances on Tuesday 7th March 2017, at The Hawth, Crawley.



A total of 14 primary schools from the Horsham area and students from Collyer's performed various pieces that had been choreographed by the pupils and staff, and all based around a chosen theme.

Southwater Junior Academy enchanted everyone with their performance of 'Individuality' to the music Gender by Really Slow Motion. This was a complicated piece of

music with challenging timing, but the dancers held their nerves, remembered their footwork and finished with a flourish.

There were many other highlights and the whole evening had a thrilling and dynamic atmosphere, with many requesting a repeat next year. Mrs Kitchener was presented with a bouquet of flowers at the end in recognition of her part in resurrecting Dancetime!



Gifted And Talented Choral Day Hits A High Note!

On Friday 17th March pupils from Year 5 at both William Penn Primary School and Southwater Junior Academy, attended a one-day Choral Workshop at Christ's Hospital, designed to enthuse and inspire Gifted and Talented young singers.

Children from twenty-four different schools across the county experienced a fun and exciting day, under the guidance of David Lawrence (Director of Young Voices). They worked on 4 songs – all of which were sung in parts – 'Stronger Together' the song made famous by Gareth Malone and the Military Wives, 'Song for Ireland' (as it was St Patrick's Day), 'Musical Memories' (a fun and upbeat part song) and 'Why We Sing' (a very uplifting part song with the theme being the power of music).

The children were also treated to a performance from Christ's Hospital Schola Choir, a performance on the organ in the Chapel, watched the famous Band Parade and had lunch in the magnificent Dining Hall. All children were thoroughly engaged in the challenges of the day and enjoyed performing their work to parents, family and friends in Christ's Hospital Chapel at the end of the afternoon.



Christ's Hospital Maths Challenge

On Thursday 2nd March, four Y4 pupils went along to Christ's Hospital school to participate in this year's Maths Challenge. They competed in pairs against schools from far and wide and enjoyed watching the marching band in the sunshine before going in to start the competition. During the course of the afternoon, the children tackled different mathematical tasks, starting with addition in Dicey Dicey, then moving on to sequencing problems in What is Next and followed by Make 24 (a version of Countdown). With their brains now fully warmed up, the pairs completed challenges within an eight minute time limit, gaining points according to how many Tangrams, Dominoes and Shopping List items they could complete. Annabelle and Lorcan astonished the competition organiser by placing their dominoes correctly on the grid in less than half the allotted time - not sure this has been done before! Well done to Annabelle, Lorcan, Seren and Tom for approaching each task with great skill and a huge amount of enthusiasm. Annabelle and Lorcan finished in a fantastic first place in their half of the challenge, whilst Seren and Tom achieved a wonderful fifth place in theirs. All four children were excellent ambassadors for SJA.



'Voices for Freedom'



On Friday 10th March, sixty pupils from Year 5 and Year 6 at William Penn Primary School and Southwater Junior Academy took part in a 'Voices for Freedom' choral workshop and performance at Chichester Cathedral.

The children worked incredibly hard to put together songs sung in unison, in harmony, in canon, songs sung in Latin, songs which involved singing, beat-boxing and body percussion all at the same time. The repertoire came from a selection of hymns, chants, canons with modern day additions. The children were taught the

songs by Tina Kear, their music teacher at school, and then the parts were allocated and put together under the direction of Emily Barden (Leader of Singing and Choirs in West Sussex) and Charles Harrison (Chichester Cathedral)

The concert took place in Chichester Cathedral and was attended by pupils and parents from the above schools alongside many members of the general public that were drawn in by the sound of the children singing. The Cathedral was packed, and the audience very supportive of all performers.

'STEM' week at Burgess Hill Junior School for Girls

As part of a Year 6 topic 'Electricity and Alternative Energy' in science, all the Year 6 children were given an opportunity to design an Eco-house as part of the STEM week project. However, eight Year 6 enthusiastic scientists were invited to attend a workshop run by 'Ricardo' (a local engineering company) to enhance their learning on alternative energy. Here they learnt about the importance of cleaner energy and how to construct an electromagnetic motor and their learning has been shared amongst all Year 6 classes. Throughout the afternoon, the children had the opportunity to work alongside engineers of today and become inspired by future technology.

Y3 at Preston Manor

On 14th and 15th March, Year 3 visited Preston Manor in Hove to learn about the life of a domestic servant. The children experienced a day as a footman, housemaid, kitchen



maid or oddman in the Victorian times and they were excited to see inside the historical building. Activities included polishing shoes, washing clothes by hand, churning milk and making jam tarts. At the end of the day several children from each class were chosen to be employed as servants at Preston Manor. The children thoroughly enjoyed their trip and the hands on experience gave them fantastic insight into their topic.



A-Life



On Wednesday 15th of March, Year 4 welcomed the group 'A-Life' who came in and worked with them in relation to their Superhuman/Superhero topic. The day consisted of a 'healthy workshop' in the morning which enabled the children to have a hands on experience at learning the benefits of having a healthy lifestyle. This covered things such as the importance of a balanced diet, cleaning teeth and the dangers of smoking. This was followed by a fitness workshop in the afternoon. This enabled the children to use specialist equipment, inspiring them to try out new forms of exercise. The children thoroughly enjoyed the day and found it not only exciting and enjoyable, but also a worthwhile learning experience.



Sports Update

Yet another wonderful term of sport and competitions comes to a close. We qualified for National finals, three Sussex finals and became Champions of Sussex for the 4th time in under a year! Amazingly, we have already won 23 Horsham Schools Competitions this year, not even counting the regional and district events! The second highest achieving school are on 5!

- A huge **congratulations** to our Year 5/6 Football Team, who are off to the National finals! The boys finished as runners-up in the South-East regional finals, losing 4-2 on penalties in the final to the team representing Essex. A fantastic achievement by the boys - the first time our school has ever progressed this far in a National Football Tournament, and we look forward to the finals whenever and wherever they may be!

- Our indoor Cricket team qualified for the Sussex finals, after being crowned Horsham Schools Champions again, playing down in Brighton against the 9 other winners from the county. Our boys won both group games, and then both games in the finals to be crowned Sussex Champions. With over 450 schools having entered the competition, I am sure you will agree with me just what a fantastic achievement this is!

- Our Sportshall Athletics team recently won the Central Sussex play-offs by 50+ points, meaning we qualified for the Sussex School Games final at Tanbridge. Our competitors raced, threw and jumped superbly throughout the morning, against the other 9 regional winners from Sussex, and we finished in Bronze Medal position, which is a magnificent accomplishment by our athletes!

- Our 3 basketball teams all competed in the final A league meeting of the Horsham Schools competition, with our As finishing the season winning all 18 of their games, and being crowned Horsham Champions! Our Bs finished as runners up after a superb season, and our Cs came 4th! The As and Bs qualified for the Sussex Finals, and played excellently, with the As finishing 4th, despite winning 3 games and only losing 1 on the night, and the Bs came 5th, winning 2 and losing 2!

- Carrying on from our football success, we did brilliantly in the recent Horsham Schools Tournaments, winning the Year 3 and the Year 6 tournaments, coming 2nd in the Year 5 tournament, and 3rd in the Year 4 and the girls' ones. More importantly, we have also given every single pupil who attends football club the chance to represent the school, by entering 3 or more teams in each competition. The results varied, with some enjoying some success, while others had the experience of playing their first ever football matches. All had a great time, and it was great to see so many smiles on faces!

- Our Swimming team came 3rd in the Swimming Gala, which is a brilliant achievement considering we don't have access to a swimming pool, unlike most schools in Horsham!

- Our Table Tennis B team, ended up finishing as runners up out of 18 schools in the B league!

- Our Year 5/6 Tag-Rugby team lost 2-1 in "Golden Try" extra-time in the final of their competition, after winning all 6 games beforehand, while the B's won 2, lost 2 and drew 1 in their group.

- Our footballers travelled to Chelsea FC's training ground, Cobham, for the South-East finals as Sussex champions recently, but finished 5th out of 7 in the end, after 2 wins and 3 losses. It was a fantastic experience for the boys though!

- We had 3 teams in the Year 3/4 Basketball Festival, and although there were no scores officially recorded on the day, our guys played their hearts out, with the As finishing with 5 wins out of 5; the Bs won 2, and the Cs won 3!

- Our brilliant netball teams have gone from strength to strength this year, all enjoying lots of success! Our As finished as runners-up to run-away winners Nuthurst in the A league. Our Bs won the D Division, and our Year 3/4s won 4, drew 2 and conceded 0 in the Year 3/4 competition, leaving them as the Champions! Well done to all!

- And finally, our Year 3/4 tag-rugby players were excellent in the Year 3/4 festival. Again, no scores were recorded, but no-one seemed to tell our players that! They won 5 and lost 1, and the future looks very, very bright!

This year we are once again collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers, we have purchased some fantastic equipment with these vouchers over the years, and any vouchers we receive are greatly appreciated!



Working together to prevent suicide

Do you work or volunteer in a role where you have occasional or regular contact with people expressing thoughts of suicide? Or people who have been recently bereaved or affected by suicide?

The public health team at West Sussex County Council are developing a new suicide prevention strategy. We would like to know your views and experiences in order to help us understand how we can reduce the risk of suicide in our local population and how we can support those bereaved or affected by suicide.

Please take part in our online consultation by visiting: <https://haveyoursay.westsussex.gov.uk/public-health/suicide-prevention-stakeholder-consultation/>

This questionnaire should take between 10 – 15 minutes to complete and will be open until April 21st – please help us by sharing this as widely as possible

Best regards

David Brindley

Easter Holiday Clubs

This Easter, Mr Showell will be running Holiday Sports Clubs again. They run from 10am-3pm, and pupils will play a wide variety of sports including: football, table tennis, gymnastics, basketball and cricket. The holiday clubs are open to all pupils who attend the juniors and the cost will be £12.50 per day. Just turn up!

The Holiday Clubs will run on the following dates: 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 18th, 19th and 20th April with a G and T day on 21st April. Further details to follow.

If drama is your thing – Sarah Esser will be hosting three days of drama based activities from 19th -21st April.

Red Nose Day – Friday 24th March

Nearly £500 was raised. Thank you for making the day so successful!

Do you have any comments about any information in the newsletter? Do you have any suggestions or concerns?

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Parent:

Name of child:

Class

Summer Term 2017



Monday 24 th April	First Day back
Wk beg 24 th April	SJA run clubs start
Thursday 27 th April	6 - 7pm Science Workshop for Y3
Friday 28 th April	Y4 Music Festival Rehearsal @ Kingslea; 3LW Class Assembly
Monday 1st May	Bank Holiday
Friday 5 th May	2.45 4AER Class Assembly
Monday 8 th May	National Curriculum tests for Y6 – until Thursday
Friday 12 th May	2.45 3AMR Class Assembly
Wk beg 15 th May	Peri Demo Week
Tuesday 16 th May	Y5 Greek Day
Wednesday 17 th May	Music Festival at The Hawth – Rehearsal am
Friday 19 th May	2.45 3CC Class Assembly
Wk beg Monday 22 nd May	Y6 to IOW Y5 to Dalesdown ; Y4 to Lodge Hill
Monday 30th May	Half Term
Tuesday 6 th June	Class Photos
Friday 16 th June	Y3 Sleepover
Tuesday 20 th June	Y5 Roman Day
Wed 21 st , Thurs 22 nd June	Y6 to Pulborough Brooks
Friday 23rd June	INSET Day
Monday 26 th June	Y3-5 Assessment Week;
Friday 30 th June	Y5/6 Sports Day
Wk beg 3 rd July	Last week of SJA run clubs
Wednesday 5 th July	Y3/4 Sports Day
Tuesday 4 th July	Parents' Meeting for Y2 parents; Y4 to Brighton
Thursday 6 th July	Transition pm for Y3,4 and 5
Thursday 13 th July	Evening: Y6 production - The Capitol - Horsham
Friday 14 th July	Evening: Y6 production - The Capitol - Horsham
Monday 17 th July	THS Transition Day for Y6
Monday 24 th July	Y6 Leavers' Disco
Tuesday 25 th July	Last day of Term; 9.15am Y6 Leavers' Assembly