



13th March 2018

Dear Parents,

Since the last newsletter we have had Victorians visiting Preston Manor, Young Voices at the O2 Arena, Y5 flying to Ghana, children dressing up as book characters and dressing potatoes as book characters – and of course the snow! It was a relief not to have to shut the school but unfortunately there was some disruption with having to reschedule the Parents' Evenings.

We are delighted to welcome Mr Tim Bailey to the academy staff as Premises Officer. Many of you will have no doubt seen Mr Bailey around the school and he has made an incredible difference in the short time he has been with us.



Kind regards
Anne Ratsey

'Young Voices' Concert at the O2 Arena

On Friday 2nd February seventy Year 6 children from Southwater Junior Academy made their way excitedly to the O2 Arena to take part in a 'Young Voices' concert. They were to be a part of a choir of some 7,705 singers, quite possibly the largest school choir in the world! The children had been rehearsing each Monday lunchtime since the start of September with Mrs Kerney-Haynes, Mr Cooper, Miss Ford and Mrs Mussellwhite and had learnt an exciting repertoire of music off by heart.

At the O2 the children responded brilliantly to the direction of the conductor David Lawrence. Not only singing their hearts out but also dancing and moving throughout the rehearsal and concert. Urban Strides, who were the first ever street dance group to perform at the Royal Variety Performance, lead the way here. They inspired the children to move confidently and try out their own moves. Even the parents were encouraged to join in! Highlights were also singing with the acappella group 'The M4gnets', soul singer Natalie Williams and 16 year old Alfie Sheard. The children got to experience at first hand the excitement of performing alongside professional musicians/performers with professional lighting and sound in a world class venue. The experience really couldn't be beaten.



Children, teachers and parents who were a part of the experience were unanimous in their praise for the day. Mr Dudeney declared Young Voices 2018 to be, "The best yet!"

We are already looking forward to Young Voices 2019. Watch this space Year 5!

Living Streets Walk to School / Parking

Things are definitely moving in the right direction as far as the use of the lay by goes. Our thanks as always to Mrs Seabrook and academy staff, who patrol the layby. Thanks also to those of you who have taken on board our pleas to help us to keep our children safe and are using the layby responsibly.

Schools Dance Festival a Spectacular Success From Ian Ford:

Re-established last year in the local schools' calendar of events the Horsham District Schools Dance Festival returned last week on Wednesday and Thursday at The Hawth Theatre in Crawley in an expanded format that included all year groups spanning from 4 to 18 year olds. This extra ambition, led by organiser Paula Kitchener, was rewarded with success in two evenings that incorporated a total of 18 performances from 17 schools and colleges, 347 individual dancers and a total of 901 audience seats sold.



Southwater Junior Academy brought the first night up to the interval with an unconventional dance based around the importance of opposites as being a force for progression. Yes geometrics and symetrics were really put to the test in this one and event organiser Paula Kitchener showed she's no one-trick pony by contributing to the choreography. Apparently 'past and future, together or separate, begin and end, are all necessary to human existence' but whilst you work that one out just to let you know the dancing involved was top notch.

You can read the whole article at <https://hdsd.org.uk/News/march-2018/schools-dance-festival-a-spectacular-success>

Sports Updates

Wow! What a fantastic few weeks our sports teams have had, full of victories and with a great participation rate too. Since the last newsletter went out, we have had 34 different tournaments/competitions! So far, a whopping 245 of our pupils have represented our school this year; which is 53% overall. Last year, 55% of our pupils had represented the school by the end of the year, so we are nearly past that mark already, with one term still to go!

We have enjoyed phenomenal success once again this term, and our pupils have had the opportunity to enjoy some fantastic experiences, such as performing at The Hawth, representing Central Sussex in the Sussex School Games sportshall athletics competition and representing Crawley Town FC in the South of England finals. Our girls' cross country team broke their own record from last year, and scored the lowest total ever recorded at this event. Our swimming team won the Horsham Schools' swimming gala for the first time in over 10 years. Our football teams have just been sensational, winning the Crawley Town tournament, and both the Year 3



and Year 4 tournaments, while our girls' team qualified for the Sussex Finals. Both our Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 sportshall athletics teams won their competitions. Our cricket team won the Horsham Schools' competition, and will play in the county finals. And finally, our table tennis A team won their league too!

There are many many more success stories, but we might run out of room if we mention them all!

Reports and write ups of the Horsham Schools tournaments can be found here; <https://hdsd.org.uk/School-Sport/horsham-area-events-programme-2017-18/results-and-reports-2017-18>

A huge thank-you to parents and family members for your help in transporting our pupils to and from our numerous tournaments and for your continued support during the matches. Our success would not be possible without you all.

As always our clubs have been unbelievably popular for next term. 950+ applications have been processed, and you should have by now received confirmation if your application was successful. We continue to offer far more clubs than any other school in the local area, and the fact we have 18 different sports clubs on offer gives us the chance to ensure as many pupils as possible have the chance to attend an extra-curricular club.



PTFA

The next major event for the PTFA will be the Summer Fete on Saturday 30th June. There will be a planning meeting on Thursday April 19th at 7.30 at the Lintot. The cake stall raised £40.26 which was impressive considering the snowy conditions. Every little bit helps to provide both academies with valuable resources. Help is always needed so do contact a member of the PTFA if you feel that you could give some time to this worthy cause.

Charity Stalls February 2018



Our Charity Stalls event was once again successfully run by children on Monday 26th February. Lots of delicious cakes and edible treats were beautifully displayed. Even after running the event for a number of years now, new ideas included 'Pet Stones', 'Guess the Number of Sprinkles on the Cake' and balloons.

The amount raised this year was £254.89 and this will be split between Great Ormond Street Hospital and Sports Relief. Thank you to everyone involved – your support is much appreciated.

Water Bottles

It would be greatly appreciated if you could supply your child with a water bottle. The office staff have given out nearly 1 000 plastic cups since January and this is obviously not a good use of school funds. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Safeguarding – Please ensure you notify the office if your child is absent from school. It is vital that the school knows if a child is absent to allow the office to make those vital First Day Calls if we haven't been informed.

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

Spring Term 2018



Wk beg 12 th March	Y3-5 Assessment Week
Wednesday 14 th March	Y5 Music Festival rehearsal 1.15-3pm at Arunside
Monday 19 th March	Y5 Voices Around the World – Chichester Cathedral; Parents' Evening 3.40 – 7pm
Wednesday 21 st March	Parents' Evening 3.40 – 7pm
Thurs 22 nd March	Y4 A Life
Friday 23 rd March	4AM Class Assembly 2.45
Thursday 29 th March	End of spring term

Summer Term 2018

Monday 16 th April	Summer term
Friday 20 th April	4DM Class Assembly 2.45
Thursday 26 th April	Y5 Music Festival rehearsal 1.15-3pm at Arunside
Friday 27 th April	3CC Class Assembly 2.45pm; Y3 Sleepover
Friday 4 th May	3AMR Class Assembly 2.45
Tuesday 8 th May	Y5 Music Festival - Hawth
Thursday 10 th May	Y5 Greek Day
Friday 11 th May	3AER Class Assembly 2.45
Friday 11 th May	3AER Class Assembly 2.45
Wk beg 14 th May	SATs week
Friday 18 th May	3LB Class Assembly 2.45
Wk beg 21 st May	Y4,5,6 Residential week

Wk beg 4 th June	Y6 Bikeability
Wk beg 11 th June	Y6 Bikeability
Friday 8 th June	5JE Class Assembly 2.45
Tuesday 12 th June	Y3/4 Country Dance Festival
Friday 15 th June	5PW Class Assembly 2.45
Tuesday 19 th June	Rain off Y3/4 Country Dance Festival; Y5 Roman Day
Thursday 21 st June	Dress down day for tombola items
Friday 22nd June	Inset Day
Wk beg 25 th June	Assessment Week – Y3-5
Saturday 30 th June	Summer Fete
Monday 2 nd July	Y6 Performing at Capitol
Tuesday 3 rd July	Y6 Performing at Capitol
Wednesday 4 th July	Y2 Meeting for parents 6.30pm
Monday 9 th July	5ZL, 5RF to Bignor Roman Villa
Tuesday 10 th July	5PW, 5JE to Bignor Roman Villa
Monday 23 rd July	Y6 Leavers' Disco
Tuesday 24 th July	Y6 Leavers' Service to parents; Last day of term

Autumn Term 2018

Monday 3 rd September	Inset Day
Tuesday 4 th September	Inset Day
Wednesday 5 th September	First day back for children