



Junior News

THE PORTSMOUTH
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



Dear Parents,

What a wonderful occasion the Open Morning proved to be last Saturday! With glorious sunshine providing the perfect backdrop, we were delighted to present to parents, past, present and future a detailed insight into the life of the Junior School.

With displays and activities taking place in all parts of the school, representing every aspect of school life, it was a true celebration of achievements both individual and collective. All the pupils displayed enthusiasm, expertise and considerable enjoyment and I am both proud of them and very grateful to them for their splendid contribution to the morning. Indeed I am also most grateful to the staff for their excellent support and contribution to the morning's events. I also thank those of you who supported the occasion by attending the Open Morning and enabling your children to take part.

The Junior School magazine, 'Junior', provides another means by which we can publically celebrate all that is achieved in the Junior School over the course of one year. I am delighted with this year's magazine and all it represents. You should have received a copy by now; however, if one has not found its way to you yet please contact Mrs Kaznowski in the Junior School and she will send one out to you. Miss Jennings, the magazine's editor, has worked tirelessly over the past few months to create the magazine and I am sure you will agree with me that it is a superb publication which so clearly reflects the school's aims of wanting all the pupils to be happy and successful—in that order!

As you will most probably be aware, the Junior School is a member of the Independent Association of Preparatory Schools; the professional association for Heads and Deputy Heads of the leading 600 independent prep schools in the UK and worldwide. Its overall aim is to promote all round excellence in education. Though each school has its own ethos, they are all committed to the pursuit of an excellent, well rounded education—valuing success and the personal development of each individual child through an unrivalled range of opportunities in sport, music, languages, art, drama and performance arts, science, technology and the early years. Last week I attended the IAPS annual conference which had the theme of 'Leadership in Challenging Times'. With eminent speakers addressing us on such topics as: 'Leadership under Fire', 'Your Leadership, Your Legacy', 'Leading Parents' and 'Leading for Sustainable Education' as well as seminar sessions on 'Inspection—what next?', 'Managing the Crunch' and 'Curriculum Change' I found the conference both stimulating and informative and have come away with much food for thought. Possibly the strongest message was the anxiety about potential erosion of independence through government induced regulation and the need for schools to display absolute compliance with all regulations. These range from ensuring that there is the correct ratio of wash basins to toilets, to ensuring that the curriculum enables effective learning to take place and making sure that every classroom facility and activity that takes place has a risk assessment. It is an interesting debate: do such regulations and the compliance with such, have a negative impact on the independence of schools or, do they create an insurance and assurance that all pupils are safe, well cared for and well educated; surely all schools would agree whole heartedly with this? However, each school has to create policy statements that confirm compliance, and if a school is compliant in practice but then fails to make the relevant policy statement about their

Autumn Newsletter 5 — 2 October 2009

practice it will be found to be at fault during the inspection process.

This week I attended a one day training course on the content and style of the new inspection process, known as the third cycle. Following the lead from Ofsted, independent schools established their own inspectorate body in the 1990's; initially, different independent school organisations (HMC, IAPS, SHMIS, GSA etc.) established their own separate inspection body. About 12 years ago all these organisations united to form the Independent School's Inspectorate (ISI) and the first cycle of inspections was born. Every aspect of a school's operations as well as the quality of teaching and learning in all the separate subject areas was under scrutiny in this first cycle of inspections. Very long and very detailed reports were issued that made judgements as to whether a school was outstanding, very good, good, satisfactory, unsatisfactory or failing in any of these categories. Six years later the second cycle of inspections was introduced when subjects were not inspected and judged separately but a judgement was made as to the overall quality of teaching and learning. In addition to this, the categories for judgement were reduced from six to four: outstanding, good, satisfactory or unsatisfactory. Schools that were previously judged to be very good then faced the challenge to further improve thus becoming graded as outstanding or to appear as though their provision had deteriorated when they were judged to be good rather than very good. From January all independent schools will be inspected using the third cycle. This comprises two types of inspection—a standard inspection every six years and, all being well, an interim inspection three years later. The standard inspection begins, at five days notice, with an initial two day visit involving two inspectors. Four weeks later a team of inspectors returns to carry out a three day inspection. We are due a standard inspection next term, which we are looking forward to (in both respects of the expression!). The Junior School has only been inspected once before, in its third year of existence (back in March 2004), using the first cycle inspection process, when the findings and guidance proved both rewarding and helpful and were used to help us determine how the school should be developed. With regulatory compliance a major factor of the third cycle inspection process we hope very much that the outcome will be a very positive one.

One aspect of a school's operations that is carefully scrutinised on an inspection is how well it promotes the Health and Safety of its pupils. Safeguarding the pupils is a major element of this which, as you can imagine, involves just about every aspect of school life and beyond from safe recruitment of staff to risk assessments. On Monday evening Mr Rowley and Mr Ainsworth held an information evening for all Junior School parents on 'Safe use of the Internet and Social Networking'. We have to ensure that our pupils are not exposed to abuse in any shape or form via the internet by guiding them as to safe procedure and keeping a careful eye on how they use social networking sites. To achieve this the school and parent body has to work in close partnership. It was a very informative evening and we were pleased to see many parents in attendance. As it is of key importance, we will be repeating the event on an annual basis.

I wish you all a happy and relaxing weekend.

Philippa Foster

The High Street, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO1 2LN

Tel 023 9236 4219 Fax 023 9236 4263 Email juniorschool@pgs.org.uk Website www.pgs.org.uk

www.pgs.org.uk

INFORMATION AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SCOOTERS

Please could we remind parents that while we are very supportive of your efforts to use alternative ways to bring your children to school, scooters should not be ridden by any children inside the school site.

R/KS1 PARENTS

Now that term is firmly underway please would parents see their child into the line when the bell rings and then move away. It is very difficult for those children arriving shortly after the bell rings to see the line they should be joining as these lines are obscured by parents. Thank you for your support.

PANTOMIME TICKETS—ALADDIN—WED 16 DEC

Starring Michael Starke as Wishee Washee (Brookside and Coronation Street) and Lisa Riley as The Genie of The Ring (Emmerdale and Fat Friends). A magic lamp, a genie and a flying carpet! What more could you want for a fantastic family adventure. Tickets for the Pantomime in Portsmouth on Wed 16 Dec can be bought at a special rate of £10 through the JSA instead of the normal price of £19.50. £2 of the £10 will go to JSA funds. If you would like to order tickets please send in a letter requesting tickets accompanied by a cheque made payable to The Portsmouth Grammar School JSA, no later than Friday 9th October to secure your seats.

COCKTAILS AND FASHION

Special ladies night 'Cocktails and Fashion'. Friday 13th November, 7.30pm in the DRT. Please lookout for the flyers which will be coming home with full details.

AFTERNOON GAMES—IMPORTANT REMINDER

The timetable has been adjusted to allow the afternoon Games session to begin directly after lunch thus creating sufficient time for us to RETURN ALL PUPILS FROM HILSEA for collection at school at the normal time of 3.35pm.

HALLOWEEN DISCO—YEARS 5 AND 6

The Halloween disco will take place on Friday 16th October in the UJS Hall from 6.00-8.00pm. Come along and join in the fun—food, disco, DJ, face painting and also a fab prize for the best outfit. All children can bring a pumpkin and there will be a prize for the best one (no candles please). £3 a ticket available from Mrs Kent in the Upper Junior School.

HOLIDAY CARE IN NURSERY—26-30 OCTOBER

Holiday care with a fun Halloween theme will be open in the nursery for children in Reception during half term (26-30 October). There are still a small number of spaces available. If you would like to book your place please call Mrs Heyes in the Nursery on 023 9268 1337. Last date for booking is 16 October.

PUPILS' ACHIEVEMENTS



Congratulations to **George Gregory** (20) who completed the library Questseekers challenge during the summer holiday, he received his medal and certificate at Southsea Castle on Saturday.

Well done to **Oliver Wisbey** (36) who passed both his Stage 3 and Stage 4 Kellogg's/ASA National Swimming Awards over the summer holidays.

BADGES

GREEN BADGE

Congratulations to **Joseph Kooner-Evans** for gaining his Green Badge.

KS2 BADGE TESTING

Pupils wishing to be tested on the winter sport elements of their badges will be given their first opportunity this term on Saturday October 3rd at Hilsea. There will be two further opportunities for testing on November 7th and November 21st and all of these dates are in the Red Book. It would be helpful if pupils could bring their badge cards with them on these occasions to be signed by staff.

HOUSE GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

Result of this competition held recently in school:

1st—Nicol

2nd—Privett

3rd—Jerrard

4th—Hudson

Winners in each Year Group:

Year 6—Grace Goodfellow

Year 5—Bella Barrington-Clark

Year 4—Alice Leonard

Year 3—Cameron Clarke

As a result of this some pupils have now been chosen to represent the school in The News annual competition over half term.

BABYSITTING

Sammy, aged 16, a student, is available for babysitting evenings, weekends and during school holidays. Sammy enjoys the company of children and hopes to become a junior school teacher after University. If interested please contact Sammy at Samantha.gingell11@pgs.org.uk.

MENU WEEK 1

HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS

The following Head Teacher's Awards were awarded: Rumaanah Cassamo for an excellent description about a Victorian setting, Alastair Cunningham for superb effort in all his English work, Megan Fisher for an excellent description of a Victorian school, Maxim Greenfield for outstanding comprehension skills, Isabel Herbert for an excellent vivid description of a Victorian school, Molly Renton for an excellent description of a Victorian setting, Brandon Senior for fantastic effort in Maths lessons, Josh Tittley for excellent comprehension skills, Emily Whitehead for a wonderful description of a Victorian school, Olivia Smitherman and Amy Stokely for thoughtful drama work, Harry Harrison, Joseph Hunter, Dominic Page and Matthew Roberts for excellent drama work, Syed Al-Rahim for excellent effort in English, Taylor Barrington-Clark for fantastic English homework, Joshua Ellard for excellent work in drama, James Harper for superb story writing, Kian Henderson-Cowley for fantastic effort in drama, Sean Hill for excellent behaviour and conduct, Ajay Patel for excellent conduct in drama, Ben Priory for excellent effort in drama, Toby Wingham for excellent character work in drama, Henry Wood for excellent behaviour in drama, Oliver McTear and Fenton Murphy for outstanding behaviour, Christopher Yang for very careful work when cutting and colouring

ROLL OF HONOUR KS2

The following pupils signed the Honours Book this week:

English: Alastair Cunningham (x2), Peter Millett (x2), Joseph Allen, Thomas Atkinson, Benjamin Brooks, Cameron Clarke, Caroline Clayton, Kirsten Goves, Serena Graham, Harvey Hamilton, Kian Henderson-Cowley, Daniel Hill, Rufus Hornsey, Sophie Jennings, Josh Leigh, Samara Materna, Edward Mitchell, Cicely Podmore, Ben Priory, Molly Renton, Thomas Row, Oliver Saunders, George Sinden, Oscar Tagg, James Taylor, Harry Tyacke, Jozef Wragg

English Comprehension: Charles Elliott, Megan Fisher, Marcus Gowers, Daniel Hill, Molly Renton

English Homework: Charles Elliott (x2), Emma Priory (x2), Benjamin Brooks, Patrick Caldwell, Dominic Chew, Marcus Gowers, Daniel Hill, Emily Pereira, Molly Renton, Callum Trimmer

Maths: Michaela Clancy (x3), Lauren McClure (x3), Anna Thornell (x3), Isabel Boden (x2), Louie Duncan (x2), Lotte Hayward (x2), Georgina McTear (x2), Lillie Simons (x2), Alice Acklam, Joseph Allen, Rory Bell, Benjamin Brooks, Caroline Clayton, Meg Dennis, Harvey Hamilton, Emma Holmes, Joseph Hunter, Roame Leaver, Philip Macanovic, Joseph McAuley, Harry Minall, Robert Mitchell, Edward Moger, Ella Povey, Luke Robins, Thomas Row, James Woodward,

Maths Homework: Rory Bell, Joseph Gowers, Harvey Hamilton, Rebecca Pascoe, Frederike Rademacher, Callum Trimmer

Science: Hermione Barrick, Thomas Crundwell, Serena Graham, Rory Greenwood, Georgia Henderson, Ethan Hoddle, Marcus Horton, Joe Stirrup, Zackary Toh, Benny Wong

Geography: Joseph McAuley, Georgina McTear, Molly Renton, Jack Silver, George Sinden

History: Alastair Cunningham

French: Zackary Toh, Benny Wong

R.S.: Matthew Cheung, Marcus Horton, Molly Renton, Emily Whitehead

Reading: Chi-Yunng Lim, Peter Millett, Molly Renton

General Knowledge: Edward Lovatt, Ben Priory, Robert Quinn

Drama: Benjamin Steggall, Oliver Wisbey

Sport: Grace Brumder

KS1 HONOURS

The following pupils signed the Honours Book this week: Omar Talaat (x2), Erica Currie, Oliver Fraser-Harris, Thomas Lockyer, Harry Loveridge, Jason Shiu, George Tolcher, Monty Wingham, Lucy Albuery, Frederick Ansell-Virco, Danny Atherton, Priya Badial, Samuel Bayco, Tara Bell, Henry Buckle, Adam Buckley, Taariq Cassamo, James Christensen, Emily Clark, Rebecca Cleary, Poppy Davenport, Yasmin Dyer, Ashwin Elanchcheliyan, Thomas Gibb, Lily Gibbs, George Gregory, Aimon Haba, Jevon Hannah, Ethan Hards, Samuel Head, Harvey Hill, Ava Hooper, Louie Howe-Walsh, Grace Loveridge, Milla Macanovic, Sophie Matheson, Tess Matheson, Maddy Oliver, Jem Porter, Alice Robertson, Henry Simmons, Miles Toh



SPORT

SATURDAY SPORT

HILSEA GAMES

There will be practices for **KEYSTAGE 2 PUPILS** at Hilsea this Saturday from 0930 to 1045. Saturday morning games are voluntary. There will be football for the boys and netball for the girls.

FIXTURES—Saturday 3 October—1330

U10A Football tournament at Twyford (away)
U10B Football tournament at Ryde (away)
U11 Netball tournament at Twyford (away)
U10 Netball tournament at Ryde (away)

WEEKDAY SPORT

POLITE NOTICE

There are occasions when weekday games sessions have to be cancelled even when the weather would appear to be fine. We strongly recommend that you make it a weekly habit to telephone the games line number on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The date is always stated on these occasions to ensure that there can be no misunderstanding. It would be appreciated if you could avoid ringing the Junior School Office for this information to leave the office free to deal with other communications.

FIXTURES—Wednesday 7 October—1430

U11A & B Football v St. John's (away)
U11 Hockey Tournament at West Hill Park

ANSWERPHONE SYSTEM

In the event of uncertainty due to inclement weather please check above sports arrangements using the answerphone system. Please phone the School on Saturday morning from 8.00 a.m. On weekday games days please phone from 1.30 p.m. The number to ring is 02392 364266. In **EMERGENCIES ONLY** please ring the following number: **07738 958314**

Sports Results

Boys' Soccer

Team	Opposition	Result:
U11A	Highfield	Won 6-0
U11B	Highfield	Won 3-2
U10A	Highfield	Won 6-0
U10B	Highfield	Won 7-0
U9A	Highfield	Drew 4-4
U9B	Highfield	Won 7-0

Girls' Netball

Team	Opposition	Result:
U11C	Durlston Court	Lost 3-33 against Durlston U11A
U10B	Durlston Court	Won 8-0
U10C	Durlston Court	Lost 2-14 against Durlston U10A
U9A	St Ives	Lost 0-6
U9B	St Ives	Lost 2-3
U9A	Feltonfleet	Won 7-4
U9B	Feltonfleet	Won 5-0
U9A	Cheam	Lost 3-11
U9B	Cheam	Won 4-2

GIRLS FIXTURES UPDATE

SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER

Under 11 Netball Tournament at Twyford
Under 10 Netball Tournament at Ryde

WEDNESDAY 7TH OCTOBER

Under 11 Hockey Tournament at West Hill Park

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER

U11A Netball v Cranleigh (a) 2.30pm
U10A&B Netball v Cranleigh (a) 2.30pm
U9 A&B Netball v Cranleigh (h) 2.30pm

WEDNESDAY 14TH OCTOBER

Under 11A,B,C,D&E Netball v Guildford High School (a)
2.30pm

THURSDAY 15TH OCTOBER

Under 9 A,B,C&D V Guildford High School (h) 3.20pm

WEDNESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER

U11A Netball v Barrow Hills (a)
Under 10A&B Netball v Barrow Hills (a)

THURSDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

Under 9A Netball v Barrow Hills (h)
Under 8a Netball v Barrow Hills (h)

WEDNESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

Under 11 Netball Tournament at Guildford High School (a)
Under 11 Netball Tournament at Westbourne House (a)
Under 9 Netball Tournament at Durlston Court

THURSDAY 12TH NOVEMBER

Under 8A&B Netball v Amesbury (a) 2.30pm

SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

Under 10 Netball Tournament at Durlston Court (10am)
Under 9 Netball Tournament at Twyford
Under 8A&B Netball v Cranleigh (a) 2.30pm

WEDNESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER

Under 11A&B Netball v Highfield (a)
Under 10A&B Netball v Highfield (h)

THURSDAY 19TH NOVEMBER

Under 11 IAPS Regional Hockey Tournament at Millfield
Under 10 Netball Tournament at Guildford High School (a) 1.30pm-4.30pm
Under 9 Netball v Highfield (h)

WEDNESDAY 25TH NOVEMBER

Under 10 Netball Tournament at Westbourne House

THURSDAY 26TH NOVEMBER

Under 8 A&B Netball v Farleigh (a)
Under 9 Netball v Dunhurst (a) 4pm

SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

Under 11A,B,C Netball v Westbourne House (h) 2.30pm
Under 10 A,B,C Netball v Westbourne House (a) 2.30pm
Under 11 IAPS Hockey Finals

WEDNESDAY 2ND DECEMBER

Under 11A&B Netball v Amesbury (h)
Under 10 A&B Netball v Amesbury (a)

SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER

Under 9 A&B Netball v Westbourne House (a)
Under 8A&B Netball v Westbourne House (h)