

What's New This Week?

Preparatory School

New Hall School, Chelmsford



Founded, 1642

Weekly Newsletter

Issue No 169

Friday 18 March 2011

Dear Parents

Science Week

This week, the children have taken part in a number of activities to recognise and to celebrate National Science and Engineering week. The children have been involved in poster competitions, quizzes and carrying out investigative activities in class. For some of the children, these investigations will count towards achieving either a Star or Super Star Crest Investigator award.

Scientific Investigations



On Wednesday afternoon, Mr Clark, a Science teacher at the Senior School, worked with Year 6 pupils in the Science Laboratory. The children enjoyed experimenting with various chemicals to create reactions and created a graph to represent their results. They learned many skills including measuring, observing, predicting and reasoning. Thank you to Mr Clark who ensured the children had a fun learning experience.

Science Fair



Year 5 and 6 pupils have been working hard to put together New Hall Preparatory School's first ever Science Fair. All classes were invited to visit the fair throughout Thursday afternoon to see the colourful posters and

displays on show. The 8 groups presented various investigations and topics ranging from Renewable Energy Resources and Forces, to Volcanoes, the Moon and many more. The teachers all agreed that every group demonstrated great knowledge and enthusiasm for its chosen topic, and interacted well with the other children. All entries have received a certificate and prize for taking part. Congratulations to all the groups for their hard work and dedication, which made our Science Fair such a great success. Thank you to Miss Allen for organising all the Science events which took place this week.



Fairtrade Fortnight

Fairtrade Fortnight began as we returned from half term on Monday 28 February. This year's slogan is 'Show off your Label'. As part of their Lent Term creative curriculum theme, Year 5 pupils have been learning more about Fairtrade, which guarantees a better deal for third world producers. Fairtrade is a simple way each one of us can make a difference through our everyday choices. It is about better prices, decent working conditions and fair terms for farmers and workers in the developing world. Fairtrade aims to enable the poorest farmers and workers to improve their position and have more control over their lives. Year 5 topics for focus are cotton, chocolate, fruit, vegetables and flowers; exploring Fairtrade and the products we use here at New Hall School; 'going bananas' for Fairtrade, and hopefully planning the cooking of homemade cakes and biscuits, baked entirely from Fairtrade goods! Half term provided an ideal opportunity for us all to look for the Fairtrade logo when we were out shopping! Over 3,000 products, from coffee to flowers, are Fairtrade certified, some of which were spotted by the Year 5 Fairtrade detectives in Sainsbury's, Marks & Spencer's (and their cafes), Tesco, the Co-operative, Starbuck's and even on bananas in the Senior School Refectory! Posters around the school advertised the all-important work of the Fairtrade foundation, whilst the website at

www.fairtrade.org.uk and information pack, including leaflets, pictures, stickers and postcards, added colourful information to Year 5 pupils' research, related in particular to the countries of Africa.



Golden Book Awards

Congratulations to the following children who were entered into the Golden Book this week:

6A	Emily Brignell Aisling Dinan Tara Durkan Holly May	6S	Benedict Stotesbury Rhiannon Hollis Rebecca Meer Cerys Dunmow
5F	Abby Beaumont Sophia Turnbull	5T	Laura Hedges Isabella King Cameron Lee Katriya Levine Thomas Spilsbury
4D	Lucy Barrett Annabelle Harle Aidan Sherlock Eloise Winsor	4R	Ramis Ibrahim Toby Warren Samantha Whetstone Luke Harding
3H	Ciaran Chambers Emily Conrad Abbie Jackson Molly Reynolds Georgia Tombs	3M	Niamh Rayment Charlotte Ray Olivia Buckland
2H	Brenna Doyle Amy Jones Robyn Moody William Wakeman	2P	Georgina Gundle Isabella Johansen-Howarth Maria Lynch Verity Winsor
2R	Jake Adams Madison Knight Apollo Wilkins	1G	Joshua Gundle Felicity Jeffrey Oliver King Noah Warne
1M	Benjamin Buckland Roseanna Clements Evie Fisher-Cook	RG	Rebecca Bentinck Harry Turnbull Niamh Westwood
RU	Daniel Ballard Jasmine Grimes Isabella Sidwell Elisabeth Dalby	PR	Yann Macleod Francesca Burrows Genevieve Rogers Darcie Meechan Joshua Ulyatt

Sport

Cross Country

U10 & U11 Cross Country Relay

The Chelmer Park Relay event last Thursday brought an end to the Chelmsford District primary cross country series. The girls' team were first to start the 1.2km race. Lucy Greenwood and Elizabeth Murphy ran first and then passed over to Jessica Bates and Natasha Skeenes. Georgina Mead and Eloise Winsor were the third runners and worked hard to run against the strong wind and pass over to Tara Durkan and Holly Notley, who completed the race. The team finished in 9th and 13th place respectively. James Holt and Jonathan Murphy gave the boys' team a good start. The changeover to Jamie Norman and Aaron Stone was smooth, and the boys ran well. Gregory Oxlade and Toby Warren were both in difficult positions, but managed to catch up and overtake the runners in front of them - Toby closing a gap of nearly 60 metres in the process. The last runners Scott Taylor and Joseph Beddoe maintained their positions to enable the team to finish in 7th and 12th place overall. Congratulations to all the runners on these good results in what was a very competitive field.

Football

New Hall v Buttsbury Junior School, lost 4-2 (penalties)

Last Friday New Hall played against Buttsbury Junior School in the Essex County Junior Cup quarter-final. In the first half of the game the Buttsbury side took the lead due to an unfortunate own goal. In the second half of the game the New Hall team played better as they began to make effective use of the possession and challenged the other team well. A fantastic cross by Jonathan Murphy gave James Holt an opportunity for a great header which resulted in a goal for the New Hall team. The boys continued to press forward and scored another goal, which unfortunately was disallowed, as the attacking player was obstructing the goal keeper's vision. The boys did not give up hope of a win and Callum Bain scored a goal within the last seconds of the game. There were no goals scored in the 5 minute each way extra time and so penalties commenced. Despite an excellent effort, the Buttsbury Junior goal keeper made 2 good saves which resulted in a 4-2 win to the team. Well done to all the boys who worked so hard in what was a difficult game. Thank you to Mr Searle for his dedication to coaching the boys throughout the year.

Netball

Year 5 Rally

The New Hall team played against a strong section of 7 schools last Friday in the annual New Hall Year 5 Netball Rally. Megan Cotton and Eloise Winsor scored a total of 12 goals during their matches, gaining points in 4 out of 6 games against Alleyn Court School, St Anne's Preparatory School, St Cedd's School and FKS Schools. Katriya Levine showed superb tenacity, never giving up, and Holly Haslam was an excellent mid court player. Nicola Jackson also contributed some great interceptions. At the end of the first round New Hall had finished 4th in their section and went on to compete in the Plate competition. This was for the 4 teams who had gained 3rd or 4th position in the first round. In the second round New Hall played a very close game against Ursuline Preparatory School in which they were narrowly beaten by a final score of 8-5. Three of the

schools in this section went on to win the trophies. Congratulations to Holly Haslam who was awarded player of the match for her hard work and good leadership. The team would like to thank Mrs O'Riley and Mrs Shiner for organising the tournament, pupils who collected the score cards and the NHPA for helping with refreshments.



Forthcoming Events

Exhibition of the work of Sr Mary Stephen CRSS

The Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre invite you to join them at an exhibition of the art work of Sr Mary Stephen CRSS at New Hall Preparatory School on Sunday 20 March. The exhibition will be held in the school hall and is open to the public on Sunday 20 March from 12noon until 5.00pm. In addition, parents are warmly invited to visit the exhibition, with or without their children, on Friday 18 March from 3.00pm or on Monday 21 March from 3.00-4.00pm. Members of the religious community will also be leading our Monday morning assembly on this day and, again, parents are welcome to attend. Postcards and original artwork will be available to purchase.

Riding Social

Please be advised that the Riding Social due to take place on Monday 21 March has been postponed.

Reception Drop-In Session for 2011 In-take

This is a reminder to all the Pre-Reception parents that on Wednesday 23 March, there is another drop-in session for you and your child. This will take place in the Reception classrooms between 4.00 and 5.00pm. Please go to the Preparatory School Office and sign in first. We look forward to seeing you.

2R Class Assembly

Parents of children in 2R are warmly invited to attend a class assembly on Thursday 24 March at 8.50am in the Preparatory School Hall. Tea and coffee will be served in Beaulieu from 8.30am.

Springfield Parish Council Annual Parish Assembly

Springfield Parish Council has asked us to publicise their Parish Assembly on Wednesday 18 May 2011 at 7.30pm. The meeting will take place at Chelmer Village Hall, Village Square, Chelmer Village CM2 6RF. There will be guest speakers from Neighbourhood Watch and the Rural Community Council of Essex as well as display stands showing the work carried out by local youth groups within the community. Information will also be available about

the Parish Council and their activities. Residents of Springfield Parish are welcome to attend. Please contact Mrs Mary Martin, Deputy Clerk to Council, on 01245 466313 or via clerk@springfieldpc.org.uk if you would like to attend.

Assembly Recital

Thank you to Samantha Whetstone for her beautiful cello recital of "Jupiter" from Holst's Planet Suite.

Reminder of change of academic dates for the Lent Term

Friday 29 April 2011 has been declared a national bank holiday for the royal wedding and as you will be aware from an earlier mailing, New Hall will honour this bank holiday for day students and day staff. In order that there is no reduction in timetabled lessons, the Lent Term 2011 will be extended by one day. Therefore instead of the last day of term being Thursday 7 April 2011, it will now be Friday 8 April 2011.

Start of the School Day

Could we please remind parents that registration for pupils should take place at 8.40am every day. In order that the school can adhere to this timing, and not miss valuable curriculum time, from Monday 21 March teachers will be bringing children off the playground at 8.35am so that they are in class punctually at 8.40am.

Clarion Call

It has come to our attention via the Parents' Forum that some parents are not aware that letters sent by Clarion Call can be replied to electronically. The School Office is sending out a separate letter this week reminding parents how to do this. Please can we ask that you do read all mailings that are sent by Clarion Call as the School Office has to spend a large amount of time chasing a significant number of parents for permission for pupils to attend fixtures and trips.

Travel Information

Car Share

A parent of Year 7 student, who will be joining the school in September 2011, is looking for a car-share from the Benfleet/Southend area. If you are able to help with this, please contact Mrs G Phillips by e-mail, gphillips@newhallschool.co.uk as soon as possible.

General's Lane

Further concern has been expressed that traffic coming down Generals Lane from the direction of New Hall's exit, is often travelling quickly. As I am sure you are aware, the oncoming traffic has right of way, in light of this please drive sensibly and at an appropriate speed. Your co-operation would be much appreciated to ensure the safety of all users of Generals Lane.

Notices

School Bags

This is a reminder that all children should all have a regulation school bag. Please also be advised only one key-ring per bag is allowed.

Sainsburys' Active Kids and Tesco For Schools Vouchers 2011
Once again, we will be collecting the Sainsburys' Active Kids and Tesco's For Schools vouchers. The collection boxes are located in the Preparatory School Reception area.

BRAIN CHALLENGE

Brain Challenge Number 19 Solution

In the year 1201 a woman was 35 years old and in the year 1206 the same woman was 30 years old.

How is this possible?

The dates are before Christ: 1201BC is 5 years after 1206BC.

Well done to the following pupils who answered correctly: Molly Reynolds (3H), Lara Clark and Rebecca Jeffrey (4R), Ellis Oxlade (5F), Finlay Ramjane (5T), Callum Bain, Lucas Bowers, Emily Brignell and Holly May (6A), Imogen Coker, Lucy Greenwood and Harry Phelps (6S).

And the next challenge:

Time to Tell

A sundial is said to be the timepiece with the fewest moving parts. What is the timepiece with the most moving parts?

Answers on a piece of paper (with your name and class teacher) to Mr Shah in the Science Lab. Parents please refrain from participating! First pupil to submit the correct answer wins a prize.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Conrad

Mrs S H Conrad
HEADTEACHER

What's New This Week? is issued every Friday during the school term. If you have any news which you would like published in an edition of *What's New This Week?*, please email c.taylor@newhallschool.co.uk.

Forthcoming Events

Date	Time	Event
Sat 19 Mar	9.00am-2.00pm	Trinity Recorder Examinations
	10.15am-2.00pm	U8 Boys TAG Rugby Tournament at Holmwood House
	11.30am-1.30pm	Year 3 Netball Tournament v Holmwood House School
Sun 20 Mar	10.45am-11.45am	Mass with music led by the Junior and Y5/6 Choirs
	12.00am-5.00pm	Art Exhibition in the School Hall
Mon 21 Mar	8.50am-9.15am	Assembly in the School Hall. All welcome.
	3.00pm-5.00pm	Art Exhibition
Tue 22 Mar	4.30-6.30pm	Year 3 & 4 Swimming Gala v Holmwood House
Wed 23 Mar	4.45-5.45pm	Parents' Forum: Gifted and Talented Provision (Year 5&6 pupils)
	4.00-6.00pm	Reception Drop In (Intake 2011)

Thu 24 Mar	8.50am	2R Class Assembly
	4.00pm	U9 Rugby - St Faiths (A)
Mon 28 Mar	9.30-11.30am	Essex heat of the South East Prep Schools Inter-School Quiz Championship 2010-2011

Prayer Corner

This week we pray for:

James and Jumi, friends of Isabelle and Thomas Harrison's family, who have been evacuated from their home in Tokyo, Japan.

Dwight Page, the uncle of Erin and Fionnuala Heffernan

God, our Father,

We know we do things we should not do,
and forget to do good things we could do:
encourage us in the weeks before Easter
to become better people, by giving up bad habits
and taking up good ones.

In the name of Jesus.

Amen

New Hall Parents' Forum



Gifted & Talented Provision

at New Hall School

A specialist Parents' Forum for parents of students in Years 5-13

Wednesday 23 March
at 4.45-5.45pm
in the Eaton Theatre

Your opportunity to find out more about the G&T provision at New Hall, to meet the Head of Department and put forward your ideas and suggestions.

RSVP to Mrs Gill O'Riley, Events Manager, on 01245 467 588 or by email on g.oriley@newhallschool.co.uk

