

Dear Parents,

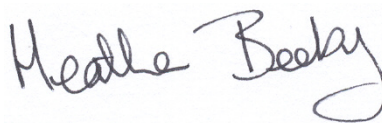
With one more week before half-term it is hard to see where time goes! The children are in good shape and we are very much looking forward to seeing most of the Year 3 to 6s on stage at the end of next week in 'Trolls'.

On Thursday evening the Prep Dining Room was filled with boys Street-dancing with JP Omari (BBC's Strictly Dance Fever 2006). The evening was a huge success and I am hoping that JP will run a Street-dance activity on Thursday evenings for us next term. He was spectacular to watch and an audience grew as the dancing progressed. It was very exciting!

I have some more exciting news to report. Next week contractors will be arriving at Hurst to start work on our new play area and parking facility. This means that the area along the fence on Chalkers Lane will be out of action for parking. However staff will be asked to park their cars in a designated area by St John's to release parking space near the school and we do not expect this to cause difficulties for you. Obviously as the work progresses we will have to be flexible and in the weeks after half term there may be some difficulties with parking. In the longer term we will have an excellent play area for the wetter months which is

completely separate from any vehicles, a vastly improved parking and dropping off facility and a netball court at the front of the school. This is a major step forward for the Prep School and I am very pleased that we have been able to achieve this in my first year here. All the building work should be complete by the beginning of the Michaelmas Term. So there will be something for the children to look forward to when they return to school after the summer holidays.

I hope you have a very happy weekend.



Academic Scholarships

I am delighted to announce the results of the academic scholarships taken by some Year 8 pupils last week. Our warm congratulations to: **Deanna Greenhalgh (Top Academic Scholarship)**, **Edward Zeidler (Academic Scholarship)**, **Ben Blundell (Academic Exhibition)** and **Elena Hargreaves (Academic Exhibition)**.

Congratulations to:-

Katherine and Suzanne Woodlock, Megan Green, Matthew and Ben Flett, Evelyn Candler and Cara McNeill who were confirmed in our chapel by Bishop Lindsay Urwin, Bishop

of Horsham, last Saturday. **Cara** was also baptized on this wonderful occasion.

The Hurst Dressage Team, which comprises of **Ellie Brown**, and **Bonita Crosdil** and **Annie Rawlins** from the Senior School, took part, with 18 other teams, in the Bedgebury School Inter-Schools' Team Dressage event. We are very proud to announce that Hurst won the competition!

Eloise Wilson and **Shona Manson** who received a rosette each at Elysia Filmer-Cox's 8th birthday party for getting clear rounds show jumping.

The following children received **Handwriting Certificates:-**
Year 3: **Shona Manson** and **Thomas Law**
Year 4: **Angus Graham** and **Jacques Swan**
Year 5: **Emily Hollings** and **Morgan Griffiths**
Year 6: **Maxim Reeve** and **Becky Thackray**
Year 7: **Charlotte Haigh** and **Harrison Marks**
Year 8: **Jasper Pickering** and **Tishian Clarke-Sheward**

Great Grades - Summer I

Congratulations to the students who have made the great grades' board this time around! A special "Well done!" to those who are unfailing in the amount of effort that they put into their studies. They are;

3B – Toby Lewis (A), Hannah Biddle (A), Theo White (A) & Toby Barker (A&E), with Alexander Simmonds Clarke (MI).

3HM – Oisín Kernon (A&MI) with Jake Leibers (A) & Lucy Manly (A).

4D – Becky Grubb (E&A) and Oliver Jagger (A&MI)

4N – Sam Manly (A), Ella Bacon (E&A) with Edward Firth (MI).

5W – Rob Cope (E & MI) and Georgia James (A)

5S – Olivia Barker (E), Douglas Brion (A) and Martha Powell (MI)

6T – Joshua Grubb (E&A) with Alex Austin (MI)

6M – Charlie Piper (E), Gemma Graham (A) with Georgia Harvey (MI).

The form shields prize goes to 4N and 5W, well done, good team effort!

Greg Wisdom was given the Match Cricket Ball on Wednesday for scoring an un-defeated 50 runs for the 1st XI. **Charlie Piper** was also given the Match Ball for scoring 52 not out for the Colts A team.

Poetry in Emotion:

In last week's poetry recital, **Zack Pinsent 7G** read his own poem. We thought you might enjoy reading it:

The Golden Light

I found a golden light, as if it were a star
Under the old tree stump in the park.
Think it must have come from heavens a far,
Because it shone as bright as the sun
And warmed my hands at night.

I looked after it with great passion,
And gave it shelter from fright,
It hummed as if to say
"I need something you can't provide."

I made it a little jacket as the years grew on
to warm it as it had me from the cold.
but as I grow old and frail the light grows more dim,
I hope it out-lives me for my time is near,
but it is out of place here.

If you believe in it
I would come hurrying to your house
To let you share my wonder,
but I want instead to see if you yourself will pass this way.
And as I die it follows me
And keeps me warm in pastures green.

Year 7 Geography Fieldwork Day Tuesday 22nd May:

Year 7 will spend the day doing coastal fieldwork at Birling Gap. A letter was sent home last week. If you have not received it, you might perhaps pick your off-spring up by the ankles and gently

shake. The letter will probably drop from a pocket!
JRB

Year 6 Exams

Children in Year 6 have all been given a letter containing their examination results. If you do not receive it please check your son's or daughter's bag.

Three Peaks' Challenge

Four mothers from Hurst Prep (with children in Years 6, 4, 3 and 1) are attempting the Three Peaks Challenge between the 15th and 16th June. This involves walking the highest mountains in Scotland, England and Wales (Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowden respectively) within a period of 24 hours. As well as completing this for pure enjoyment (!) the aim is to raise as much money for 'Friends of the Chernobyl's Children' as possible. A website has been created to make it easy for people to donate money if they wish.

http://www.justgiving.com/tpc_hurst

The school has supported this extremely worthwhile charity all year and in June a group of children from Chernobyl will be spending time at Hurst with us.

Mark Scott

Mark would like to thank everyone for their thoughts and wishes and is looking forward to seeing everyone again in March.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

DAY	EVENT	PICKUP
Monday 21 May	Junior Play all Day Technical Rehearsal	4.30 5.20 after activities
Tuesday 22 May	08.30 – 17.00 Year 7 Geography Field Trip to Birling Gap 13.45 ‘Trolls’ Schools’ Performance 17.00 Tennis v Copthorne 18.30 Finance Committee	4.30 5.20 after activities 6.00 after prep
Wednesday 23 May	Cricket v Ardingly 1 st XI (H), 2 nd XI (A), 3 rd XI (A), 4 th XI (H), 5 th XI (A), Colts A XI (H), Colts B XI (A), Colts C XI (H), U9A X (H), U9B X (A), U9C X(H) Rounders v Handcross Park 1 st IX triangular with Brambletye (A at Brambletye) U11 – IX(A), U10 IX (H)	4.00 or Various times after matches (see boards)
Thursday 24 May	Charity Day – please bring small change to buy cakes and play games at break. For a £1 fee, children may wear their own clothes below the waist! (with uniform on the top half!) 19.00 ‘Trolls’ Performance 1 in the Bury Theatre There will be no Opera Brava rehearsal this evening.	4.30 5.20 after activities 6.00 after prep
Friday 25 May	16.30 Chapel Service: Eucharist, Celebrant The Provost, Rt. Rev’d Lindsay Urwin 19.00 ‘Trolls’ Performance 2 in the Bury Theatre	5.10 after chapel 6.00 after activities
Saturday 26 May		

MATCH REPORTS

Cricket v St Aubyn’s

1st XI Hurst 139 for 5dec. St Aubyn’s 105 for 8

This was our first outing for 2 weeks; the weather and bank holidays having interrupted the season. The rain produced the first damp wicket that we have seen for 12 months. Hurst were put in by St Aubyn’s and with the help of **Tim Moses** made a positive start in the tricky conditions. He rapidly moved the score beyond 30 before playing too early and being caught behind. Later **Ken Tsang** joined **Greg Wisdom** to push the score towards 100. **Greg’s** concentrating and excellent running between the wickets brought him a well deserved undefeated 50. He was joined by **Marcus Campopiano** who completed our innings with a fine six. Hurst’s bowling and fielding was the best that has been seen this season. The catches and accurate bowling restricted St Aubyn’s, who having lost their main batsmen held on for the draw. **Brandon Troak** and **Tim Moses** were the Pick of the Bowlers. A fine cricketing performance by a young team, eight of whom are in Year 7.

2nd XI won by 171 runs.

In a 20 / 20 match Hurst scored 211 with the loss of 4 wickets. Aggressive batting from **Digby Tattersall** (64), **Tom Page** (59 no out) and **Tim Hyman** (45 not out) put us firmly in the driving seat! Our bowlers and fielders did a good job to skittle their batsmen for 40 runs. Pick of the Bowlers were **Stefan Leth** and **Joe Martin** who both got 1 wicket for 4 runs off two overs. **Connor Valentine** did well with the ball but also got two catches and a run out after a diving stop. There were two catches in the slips, one each for **Stefan Leth** and **Giles Orchard**. **Will Frost** and **Tim Griffiths** who do not usually bowl got 3 wickets between them and were both involved in run outs. With so many people contributing in so many different ways the Man of the Match would have to be someone who did something exceptional. Man of the Match was **Connor Valentine** for his diving stop and subsequent run out! Well done on an excellent team effort!

4th and 5th XI

The eagerly awaited clash between the 4th and 5th XIs took place on a blustery, overcast afternoon amid a hive of tension that only the true sporting classics can conjure up. This was the 5th's first outing of the season and a stern test of their inexperienced mettle against a hardy 4th XI smarting from their narrow defeat at the hands of the 3rds a couple of weeks ago. Having won the toss and carefully assessed the conditions 5th's skipper **Haitham Al-Omari** elected to bat first and post a healthy target. **Al-Omari** and opening partner **Zack Pinsent** strode out and the battle began. The going was fairly sedate to begin with, **Henry Thorns** and **Samuel Johnson** bowling a very tight spell and but for one neat sweep for four by **Al-Omari**, runs were hard to come by. The first bowling change brought 4th's skipper into the attack and in his second over he made one nip of the surface and **Al-Omari's** battling innings of 6 was over with the score at 14 off 7 overs. **Pinsent's** sturdy defence was finally broken by **James Rothwell** in the 11th over and despite not scoring any runs with the bat he had soaked up a good deal of the 4th's frontline bowling leaving **Ben Pounds** and new batsman **Daniel Costello** to push the run rate up. This they did, **Costello** scoring 10 off his first 6 balls. Alas the onslaught did not continue and fine spells by **Matt Stephens** (bowling **Costello** for 13) and the returning **Thorns** (finishing with 2 for 4) left the 5th's with 57 for 5 from their 20 overs.

In truth the target was perhaps 20 or so shy of where the 5th's had wanted to be, knowing that the 4th's top 3 batsmen were all in good form and despite a tidy opening spell by **Scott Brooker** and **Oliver Howard**, **James Rothwell** and **Raffe Ahmed** set about the necessary task of establishing the required run rate. A breakthrough came with the first bowling change when **Raffe** lofted a top edge high and **Costello** took a fine catch to give **Harry Noad** a well-deserved wicket with score at 11 from 4 overs. As was expected, the superior ability of some of the 4th's more experienced players began to show and **Will Swan's** fluid 19 (including 3 4's) and **Rothwell's** hardy 5 were enough to pit them within touching distance of the target. Coach Ronan (clearly with half an eye on the next fixture) then gave his middle order a run out and the 58 was reached with a gentle flick off his pads by **James Weir**. A deserved win for the 4th XI but a gallant performance by the 5th's who will no doubt be hardened for their fixture against Ardingly on the 23rd with the knowledge that cricket can sometimes be a steep learning curve.

Colts A Hurst 105 for 9 St Aubyn's 97 for 7 Match drawn

Hurst batted well on a difficult pitch with uneven bounce. Wickets were lost at regular intervals but **Charlie Piper** ensured a competitive total with a score of 52 not out, 48 of which came in boundaries. Hurst bowled well and a burst of wickets towards the end with **Chris Wyles** taking 2 with his last 2 deliveries ensured that St Aubyn's did not reach the target. Man of the match **Charlie Piper**.

Rounders v Cumnor House

1st IX:

On Wednesday the 1st IX rounders team played Cumnor House at home. Hurst batted first and scored 3 ½. This was not the start we were looking for and we knew when we went into field that we would

have to be very slick. We then got them all out for 9 ½. This was a good result, but it meant that we had a lot of catching up to do. We had put ourselves under a lot of pressure.

In our second innings we took our score to 14, with some good aggressive batting, especially from **Deanna** and **Christie**.

Cumnor were then chasing 5 ½ to win. We managed to get them out for 17 ½ but our fielding was, on the whole, very good. Congratulations to **Zoë**, **Suzanne** and **Christie** who took great catches and to **Katherine** and **Ellie** for some brave play!

If we had batted well in the first innings, we would have romped home. if only ...! DKS

2ND S:

Having had no chance to practise over the last week due to the lousy weather, I expected the worse. Cumnor House always put out reasonably strong teams and I was sure this was going to be no exception.

We lost the toss, which meant that we had to bat first, not a good start. However, the girls started positively and some of them hit some good rounders. **Megan Green** was outstanding scoring 4 of the rounders. In the past our batting has not been very strong, and it has always let us down. At the end of the innings we scored 7 rounders which wasn't too bad. Cumnor had a couple of big hitters, who we did well to catch out. Bringing **Emma Webb** into the team as Backstop I thought would help us to get more players out on the 1st base, however that was not the case. Our main problem throughout fielding was decision making of where and to whom to throw the ball, also the decisions needed to be made quicker. At the end of the innings the score was Hurst 7, Cumnor 8.5.

This game was within our grasp, if we went into bat and didn't take risks and built up the half rounders. Followed by some tight fielding and getting players out on the posts. The batting went reasonably well, with the team scoring a further 9.5 rounders. Cumnor went into bat and scored numerous half rounders and only scored full rounders on our errors.

The final score was Cumnor 22.5, Hurst 16.5. This I feel for the little amount of practice and lack of matches for this point in the term was a good effort.

3rd IX:

An agonising and close run match was played against Cumnor House. The final score was **Hurst 16½ - Cumnor 17**. The game decided on the last hit of the ball! The girl of the game was **Rebecca Bowtell** who not only caught four girls, but managed to take a catch and stump someone else on her base with the same ball. The rest of the team played with spirit; **Charlotte Haigh** deserves a special mention. Although, we lost the game it was fair and all of the 15 girls rotated in to play their part. Well done girls! Next time...

U10 B:

The U10 B girls had a tough match against a good Cumnor side. **Martha Powell**, **Georgia James**, **Bella Arghiros** and **Madeleine Leeper** all scored half rounders. **Ella Bacon** and **Georgia James** managed to stump three of the Cumnor girls out in the second innings. Due to our disappointing first innings batting we didn't quite manage to catch up to Cumnor's first innings of 13 in our second innings. Final Score 7 – 13 to Cumnor with an innings to spare!