

A word from the Headmistress

At the start of term, we welcomed a group of Winterfold Old Boys from the 1980s to the School after an absence of almost 30 years. Many of them had not seen each other since their school days and it was with great excitement and enthusiasm that they recounted stories of their happy days at the School. Winterfold was in those days a boarding school, and many of the stories were about the antics they got up to as boarders. Apparently, one of their favourite exploits was to sit in your trunk at the top of the IT stairs and then push each other down the stairs – certainly not to be recommended today! What we currently have as Learning Support, IT and the Library were all boarding houses then, and the Old Boys could identify exactly where their bunk beds used to be. In those days there was no television or radio in the boarding houses, and when one of the boarders was desperate to listen to the football on the radio, he was told by the headmaster that he could only do that if he built a radio himself! Resourceful as ever, he built one in the boarding house (now the IT room) and from it ran wires all over the ceiling to ensure the best signal to listen to the game. Whilst they also recounted tales of having to have cold showers in the winter when the hot water didn't work, this did not dampen their enthusiasm for Winterfold. They looked back on it as a very different era, and one which gave them so many opportunities, friendships and lasting happy memories of a wonderful school. We hope that our current children will look back with the same level of fondness when they come back to visit again in the 2040s!

Mrs Denise Toms



The Macmillan Coffee Morning will be held in Penryn Hall on

Friday 29th September from 8am. Take away tea and coffee will be available. Starbucks

have kindly donated the coffee and cups. All are welcome including friends and family! If you are able to bake and donate a nut-free cake or cupcakes we would really appreciate it - please leave them at the School Office. We will also be holding a raffle, and any raffle donations will be gratefully received. Please contact sukierapal@gmail.com if you require any further information. Children need to bring in £1 donation for cake on the day. If you are unable to attend the coffee morning but would like to donate £5, please Text **BUN EDF9** to **70550**. We will be able to see how much the text donations raise and add them to the final total. We look forward to seeing you on Friday.



Congratulations to **Jaime Stirk** and **Emily Bower** who have both been selected for the U12 County Netball Squad. Congratulations to **Oliver Sirett** for being selected for the Hereford and Worcester County U12 Tennis Team, and also for winning the U11 County Cup Cricket Competition as part of Bromsgrove Cricket Club. Well done to all.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the following Prep School pupils:

3A – Rhys Palmer; 3G – Anna Heathcote; 4T – Roisin Hale; 4H – Harry Phipps; 5FJ – Lara Shuker; 5R – Emma Wilson; 6B – Edward Davies; 6L – Katie Hill; 7F – Sophielouise Earp; 7D – Elâ Shuker; 8M – Jacob Stirk; 8C – Pippa Fleming.

On Tuesday, our Head Boy, Oliver, Head Girl, Kayla, Deputy Head Boy, Henry and Deputy Head Girl, Sophie had a very special lunch with Mrs Toms.



GENERAL NOTICES AND INFORMATION

Nasal Flu Immunisations On Wednesday 11th October, children in Reception to Year 4 inclusive will have the opportunity to take part in the Nasal Flu Immunisation programme. Forms have been sent out today and should be returned and completed, to the School Office ASAP **even if you do not wish your child to take part.**

Lost Property Leo Wilkinson (Year 8) has lost his brand new and named maroon School V-neck jumper – please check.

Parents' Contact Details Could we ask all parents to let the School Office know of any changes to personal details such as home address, mobile phone and email, so that we can ensure that all data is up to date.

Back Lane and School Drive Please could all parents observe the speed limit on the School drive, which is 15mph. Also, could we respectfully ask parents not to use the back lane into School (that runs from the A448 past Pump It Up Events) as this is private property and is not official access to the School.

School Drop Off A reminder that children should be dropped off at School on the main car park, and **NOT on the School crossing by the Changing Rooms.** This is not only to ensure their safety, but also so that children are using the correct entrance to School.

PREP SCHOOL NEWS



At Winterfold, we look to our older children to set high standards and be good role models to our younger children. This week, Year 8 have done just that. Last Friday was the annual Year 8 Camp-Out where the year group played wild games in the woods, roasted marshmallows and ate pizza. However, what made this year's camp so noteworthy was their superb behaviour and cooperation; not just during the games and fun activities but also when it came to clearing up, fetching water and other camp chores. In Year 8 Mass on Thursday, Father Lamb was extremely impressed by their sensible attitude and maturity. Today, they have once again been superb role models to Year 3 during our paired reading. In addition, they have completed all their duties without complaint and welcomed a number of guests to the school.

Today we are launching the new Winterfold Badge. The children are very excited to have been given their new folders and they have been talking about the badge and how to complete it with their Form Tutors. At the end of next week you will receive your child's first interim report. Please be aware that this will be made available to you through the new Winterfold Parent Portal, which will be accessed via the school website shortly. Next week you should receive an email that will give you details of how to log in to your own area. This is a new initiative that we are looking to develop further through year.

Study skills lessons have been "Braintastic" this week. Years 6, 7 and 8 have been exploring their thinking style and establishing whether they are a right-brain thinker, left-brain thinker or a combination of both. This has led to lots of discussion and the creation of brain posters exploring how the different sides of the brain works. Drama in Year 7 and 8 is now on the timetable with children having theory and practical lessons. In Year 8, the children have been focusing on the history of Theatre from Greek Tragedy through to Modern day. Year 7 have been performing *The Snail and the Prince* by Philip Ridley, using distinctive voices for the characters. The use of the new drama diaries to record the practical sessions are an essential tool to improvement and reflection on performances. All of Year 7 and 8 children have embraced the new courses and are enjoying the lessons!

Mr Cotterill, Academic Deputy Head

PRE-PREP NEWS



This week has been an exciting time for the Key Stage 1 children, as both **Years 1 and 2** had their first trips of the school year. On Tuesday, **Year 2** visited the Black Country Living Museum to support their Art topic 'If Buildings Could Speak'. We began the day meeting our Victorian guides who took the children to their very own 1910 school lesson. This



involved many challenges, including reciting the alphabet backwards. Poor Miss Kavanagh even managed to be given the cane for sloppy and untidy handwriting! The remainder of the day saw the children experiencing the many shops and homes at the museum, where they learnt about life during the 1800's and the early 20th Century. The following day, **Year 1** enjoyed their trip to Hanbury Hall, where they learnt how to be a servant. They laid the table, polished the silver and even managed to do the laundry! Both year groups thoroughly enjoyed their trips and the staff were particularly pleased by the many compliments received about their impeccable behaviour.

A Trip to the Think Tank has been highlight of the week for **Reception** children this week. An early start gave us the opportunity to make the very best of an

exciting day of exploration and investigation. A workshop which taught the children all about their senses and the inside of their bodies, was a massive success and consolidated the children's learning back in the museum where they had hands on opportunities to find out for themselves how their bodies work. Back at school, reading has continued and children are consolidating their phonic knowledge and beginning to learn how to blend sounds together and word build. The children have also been using their eyes to make observational drawings and we have had some excellent results.

This week the children in **Kindergarten 2** have enjoyed exploring a variety of mark-making activities to develop their fine motor skills and writing skills. We have also created a numbered height chart and the children have been counting and identifying numbers 1-10.

Kindergarten 1 children have been talking about the ingredients of what makes a good friend and how a kind friend might help us. They have made a wonderful 'Friendship Tree' display alongside their very own 'I am Special'



mirror. Lots of Autumn finds in the school grounds this week as the leaves begin to change colour and fall to the ground.

Mrs Bolton (Head of KS1) and Mrs Thackery (Head of EY)

WOODHOUSE NEWS

This week in Nursery, the Babies have been out for some lovely, albeit wet, walks - all suited up with welly boots on, enjoying lots of puddle splashing and a few even sitting in the puddles! They have also produced some lovely Autumn finger painting pictures. The Tweenies have finished off their Space theme and the room is looking wonderful with lots of different pictures on the walls. The Toddlers, meanwhile, have started their Autumn theme, producing lots of art work including hedgehogs, squirrels, badgers, owls and lots of trees. They also enjoyed going out collecting the leaves to use in their artwork

Mrs Parker, Nursery Manager

YEAR 4 PÉTANQUE CLUB

The competition in the Pétanque club (French boules) is getting fiercer and fiercer amongst Year 4! Qu'est-ce qu'on s'amuse bien dans le club de pétanque!

(ps: the French bit means 'What good fun we have in the pétanque club').

Señora Farrell, Head of MFL

SPORTS NEWS



This week most of Sports teams have enjoyed matches against Abberley Hall. Our Senior boys won at all levels and our Senior girls, despite not quite winning, experienced very close and exciting games. Our U10 girls had great victories whilst our U11 girls took part in a festival at Malvern College. The boys in Year 5 and 6 had mixed results on the day but gained much from their experiences. The junior boys and girls were also in action this week with the U9A teams taking part in mini rugby and hockey festivals hosted by RGS the Grange and Abberley Hall respectively. The U8 girls also

experienced their first ever hockey match at Abberley Hall which they thoroughly enjoyed. All players received coaching from staff through their games and gained valuable match play experience in a friendly and nurturing environment. It has also been great to see the Pre-Prep children enjoying their PE lessons with Mr Brinkley and myself ... we are so lucky to be able to start them young and watch them grow in to strong, active and confident young sports players.



Mrs Humfress, Director of Sport

CHAPEL NEWS

Following many enquiries from pupils, the Worship Leadership Team from last academic year have met up and designed an application form for the faithfuls and the hopefuls to fill in, in order to become Worship Leaders for this academic year. We should soon have a new team ready to take on the role of keeping the religious life of the school alive. I would like to thank the previous team of Worship Leaders, who were so dedicated, enthusiastic and helpful to me all year:

Oscar Hill
Richard Darby
Olivia Odell
Luca Phipps
Lewis Till
Katie Hill
Olivia Garrett
Luke Ranasinghe
Kristin Camargo
Evie Richards

Also thanks to the Worship Squad, who made up their own team within a team and did extra jobs in the chapel:

Pippa Fleming
Alice Price
Nissa Niroumand
Sophie Spittle

I am looking forward to training up new Worship Leaders, who will be able to meet on alternate weeks with both myself and Deacon Sean.

Ms Howarth, Head of RE

MUSIC NEWS

We have had a great week of rehearsals, most of which are at new times and seem to be working well. Can you please ensure that your child has the right instrument in School on the right day, the times will not change over the year so hopefully it will become routine after a while.

The Music Shop is very much open for business. Please do bring in any old music that you no longer need to be re-sold. We have in stock strings, valve oil, music bags etc. Any profits go back to the School so please do pop in and support it.

Mr Price, Head of Music



SCIENCE NEWS

This week in Biology, Year 8 have planned and carried out an investigation into the effect of light intensity on photosynthesis in pond weed, whilst Year 7 have been learning Science skills, including Bunsen burner training and the effective use of the light microscope. Year 6 are currently studying 'Light Waves' and this week have been investigating the Law of Reflection. In Year 5, the children have been looking at examples of asexual reproduction in plants and are currently competing to see who can grow the best cutting from a Geranium plant. Science club pupils have had lots of fun building and racing balloon rockets, exploring shape and streamlining to enhance speed.

Dr May, Head of Science