

14 October 2011



Dear Parents

The pupils have been involved very recently in several sporting competitions, both regional and further afield. In Monday's assembly I presented silverware and certificates to no less than four separate boys' and girls' age groups – a fantastic achievement. Full details as ever can be found on the website.

The Year 5 and Beyond evening on Thursday was an extremely good event. Mark Slater, Headmaster of The Leys School, talked about the increased confidence that comes with being at the “top of the tree” in Years 7 and 8 in a Prep School. He went on to mention the importance of just how much academic work is covered in those top two years in a Prep School and how well prepared he finds pupils arriving in Y9 at The Leys. My thanks go to staff and parents who attended this very informative evening.

We welcomed back Harford Manor School into the school community this week and look forward to our Year 8 pupils working collaboratively with their students again this year. Last year's leavers designed and created some wonderful interactive “tools” which enhanced the lives of children with complex learning difficulties and the intention is to repeat the exercise this year whilst building on lessons learnt last year.

Numbers in the school continue to increase and I am delighted that those children who joined us in September have made such a strong start. “Settling in” reports should have been received by parents and with two more children undertaking “taster days” this week on the back of such a busy Open Morning, the signs are very positive indeed.

“Radiators of the Week” this week go to Aaron Hollinger for his help and thoughtfulness in the changing rooms which as you might imagine, can be a place where such qualities are very much appreciated! Harriet Blake is the second recipient for her positivity and energy with staff and her friends on a long round trip to Cambridge this week, where she “shone” on and off the hockey field. Well done to both pupils.

James and Will Graver have been busy playing ‘Life Size Monopoly’ around the streets of London and winning a competition for Cawston Youth Group, which sounds like fun!

I am also pleased to report that Charlie Dade in Year 5 has been invited to audition for the London Children's Ballet for a role in their production of “A Little Princess” in the West End in April. Good luck Charlie!

Sport

Louisa Crabtree is one of a number of girls who is practising hard for the forthcoming netball season by training with the Thoroughbreds Netball side. Louisa achieved an extraordinary feat a week ago by personally scoring 30 goals in her position as goal shooter in a league match for the U12 side – well done Louisa!

A terrific victory for the U11A Rugby side on Wednesday along with 2 victories for the U11A and U11B Girls hockey sides and an excellent performance in the mixed swimming gala, make very good reading and the details can be found below.

Congratulations also go to Charlie Greeves who has been selected for the U10's County Cricket Squad which is another great achievement.

Girls

<http://www.taverhamhall.co.uk/category/children-news/girls-sport/>

Boys

<http://www.taverhamhall.co.uk/category/children-news/boys-sport/>

More Sport

<http://www.taverhamhall.co.uk/category/children-news/more-sport/>

There are also reports about the two tournaments that took place at the end of last week:

Boys' football tournament

<http://www.taverhamhall.co.uk/children-news/more-sport/taverham-hall-school-victorious-at-two-football-tournaments-13344/>

Photo moments from the U12 girls' 2nd place at the St Felix Hockey Tournament:

<http://www.taverhamhall.co.uk/children-news/girls-sport/hockey-moments-from-st-felix-13224/>

The Under 12 Girls' Hockey Team journeyed to the IAPS 7's Hockey Tournament which was held at Bishop Stortford College this week where 11 teams in total took part. Although it was a very tough tournament, with matches against much bigger schools, some with county players, the girls can feel proud of the effort and determination they showed throughout the tournament. For a full report please follow the link:

<http://www.taverhamhall.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Girls-Match-reports-13-October-2011.pdf>

October Half Term Netball Training - Hertfordshire Mavericks Champs Camp in Norwich

2011 Superleague Champions, Hertfordshire Mavericks, are delighted to announce that one of their Champs Camps is taking place in Norwich during half term.

The 3-day netball training camp for players aged between 8-14 years old will be led by Hertfordshire Mavericks players and coaching staff.

Details of the Norwich camp are below:

Date: Wednesday 26th October - Friday 28th October 2011

Time: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm daily

Venue: CNS, Eaton Road, Norwich. NR4 6PP

Cost: £60 for 3 days

Please click on the following link to download a booking form and for further information:

<http://www.thoroughbredsnc.co.uk/news/hertfordshire-mavericks-champs-401814.html>

Pre-Prep

Reception have had an exciting time in Forest School this week looking for minibeasts. The children found spiders, centipedes, toads and purple beetles. In art they have been

experimenting with different colours of paint and collaging pictures, using a wide variety of materials and craft resources.

As part of their science topic, Year 1 had fun on Thursday tasting six varieties of crisp and trying to guess the flavour of each. They then recorded their results by drawing up individual bar charts.

The children encountered wet weather for the first time in their first school session this week. They discovered that the rain could enrich their outdoor experience and help them to further understand their 'senses' topic. It was very exhilarating to feel the rain on our faces and to investigate the properties of clay when used in the rain.

This week Year 2 have been busy learning to measure using metres and centimetres. In pairs, they were set the challenge of creating their own fish that had to be exactly 1 metre long. The children designed some amazing fish which are now displayed outside the classroom.

On Thursday Major Sarah from the Salvation Army took our assembly. She told the story of the man who couldn't walk and she kept the children enthralled as she used one piece of paper and cleverly folded it in a variety of ways to illustrate the content.

The Pre Prep library is looking very tidy and organised thanks to the efforts of Mrs Webster. Year 2 children are now going to be responsible for the upkeep and organisation of the library and we hope everyone will support this initiative.

Nursery

Nursery 1 children have been outside making and flying helicopters and kites this week, discovering how they fly and float in the wind. They have also been making Gruffalo Crumble which was delicious!

Nursery 2 have been exploring shapes, finding them outside. They have created houses and robots from them and spent time using the Overhead Projector to identify shapes together.

Music

This week in assembly the school were treated to a version of ELO's classic song "Diary of Horace Wimp", performed by Year 4 pupils. Whilst the children were advised, by the Headmaster, not to meet and marry someone within the space of a week (as the song advocates!), the theme of "don't be afraid" and to have the courage of your convictions was relayed in terrific fashion!

Boarders' News

We are delighted with the superb shoe designs we are receiving for the 'Design a Shoe Competition' - please note all boarders have until next week to enter. We hope many boarders will be busy carving their pumpkins during half term ready for our very popular 'Pumpkin Night' on Monday 31st October – please book your bed now if you wish to take part in this fun event.

On Monday Mr Drew-Batty gave some tips to our boarders about how to create a rap song. There was great hilarity in Squirrels later that evening as the girls gathered together to try and compose some rap lyrics about boarding. When the boys heard how well the girls were doing, they stopped watching their film to create some of their own.

After a game of 'Sardines' downstairs on Tuesday, the girls had fun playing 'Guess Who', and Matron Ives reports that there were some very good impersonations of members of

staff! The boys enjoyed a game of 'Happy Families' as well as their now usual round of mini cricket.

Wednesday was a busy night with several girls joining us ready for their early morning start on Thursday for the hockey tournament at Bishops Stortford. We also held our Pool Party which was great fun with 23 children taking part. Once again, the duck family joined them in the pool for duck races and 'Starboard, Port' was another favourite game that they played.

Year 5 pupils should have received an invitation to our 'Year 5 Sleepover' scheduled for Wednesday 9th November. We are looking forward to having you join us so please speak to the matrons to book your beds. We are also taking bookings for those who wish to board for the School Bonfire Night which will take place on Thursday 3rd November.

Pupils had the opportunity to choose new books at the Book Fair this week. Organised by Miss Chapman, with the Norfolk Children's Book Centre, the children were able to spend time looking at the books and Y3 and Y4 children also spent time talking about how to choose the right book for them.

Miss Chapman was delighted with the level of response to the Summer Reading Challenge and to the new Book Club hobby.

You can read about both these on the website, along with a report of the Year 8 pupil's recent visit to the Norwich Playhouse on the website.

Summer reading competition results:

<http://www.taverhamhall.co.uk/children-news/prep/summer-reading-challenge-results-13333/>

Bookclub:

<http://www.taverhamhall.co.uk/children-news/prep/book-club-13323/>

Year 8 theatre trip:

<http://www.taverhamhall.co.uk/children-news/prep/friend-or-foe-at-norwich-playhouse-13330/>

As half term appears, almost unbelievably, on the horizon, this will be the last newsletter of an incredibly busy start to the academic year and I wish all parents and pupils a restful half term break.



Mike Crossley
Headmaster

Calendar

Further advance dates can always be found on the school website here:

<http://www.taverhamhall.co.uk/calendar/>

| | | | |
|----|------------|-------|--|
| Tu | 18/10/2011 | | Year 4 to Lynn Museum (Awe-ful Archaeology) Y3 visit to Time and Tide |
| | | 15:30 | Year 3 Parents Evening |
| We | 19/10/2011 | 14:30 | Girls U13A, U13B and U11A v Finborough (A) |
| | | 14:30 | Girls U11 B v Beeston (A) |
| | | 14:30 | Boys U9 A & U9B v Wisbech (H) |
| | | 14:30 | 1st XV v Wisbech (H) |
| | | 14:30 | Colts A & B v Wisbech (A) |
| | | | Thursday 20 to Sunday 30 October - Half Term |
| Mo | 31/10/2011 | | Closing Date for Scholarship Applications Y8 Girls HPV Vacs Boarders Pumpkin Night |
| Tu | 1/11/2011 | 15:35 | Pre-Prep Consultations |
| | | 16:30 | Girls Swim Gala v Riddlesworth Hall (H) |
| We | 2/11/2011 | 14:30 | Girls U13A & U13B v Norwich High (at Dereham) (A) |
| | | 14:30 | Girls U11A and U11B v Brandeston (A) |
| | | 14:30 | Colts A & B v Brandeston (H) |
| | | 14:30 | Boys U9 A & B v Beeston (A) |
| | | 14:30 | Girls U9 v Glebe (H) |
| | | 15:10 | U13s Rugby v Wymondham College (A) |
| Th | 3/11/2011 | 08:30 | Circuits (Parents) |
| | | 18:00 | Firework Display |
| Fr | 4/11/2011 | 08:30 | Assembly with Rev Seabrook Strings afternoon at Gresham's |
| Mo | 7/11/2011 | 14:00 | School Team Photos |
| Tu | 8/11/2011 | 15:30 | Year 4 Parents Evening |
| We | 9/11/2011 | | Scholarship Assessment and Interviews |
| | | 14:30 | Girls U13A and U11 A v Town Close (A) |
| | | 14:30 | Girls U9s v Beeston (A) |
| | | 14:30 | Boys U9 A&B v Norwich (A) |
| | | 14:30 | Colts B v Riddlesworth (H) |
| | | 14:30 | 1st XV v Langley (A) |
| | | 15:15 | Girls U13B & U11B v Town Close (A) |
| Th | 10/11/2011 | 16:00 | Swimming Gala v Hethersett Old Hall (H) Scholarship Assessment and Interviews |
| Fr | 11/11/2011 | 10:50 | Remembrance Service |