

The Nutshell



Hazelwood School

What a disappointment the snow was on Friday! As it fell thick and fast on Thursday evening and covered the site in white in under 90 minutes, we all had high hopes for a Friday filled with snowmen and snowballs. Sadly, the reality was somewhat different and the snow gave way to ice and, very quickly, slush. On all occasions such as this the time comes when a decision has to be made and all the vacillations which went before need to be put to one side for a categorical message. We left it as late as possible to make the call that we felt was in the best interests of the children and their continued learning. The decision was taken to carry on as normal, to show a stiff British upper lip (with a side order of South African thrown into the mix) and to continue to offer as near a routine timetable as possible. Apologies that the changing view on uniform versus ski-wear caused some angst and disappointment in many households. I hope that the combination of web alerts, emails and texts kept you informed. A huge thank you to the staff and pupils who made it in and especially to members of the Estates team who began clearing the car park at 6.30am to be joined later on by their Admin and Teaching colleagues. The site was safe and navigable by 8.30am when the majority of the 250 pupils who made it in, arrived. I hope the hot chocolate at fruit break warmed up any lingering chilly extremities. With rising temperatures, rain and even a little sunshine forecast for the weekend, I think we will soon be saying goodbye to the last of the snow. I hope the children will enjoy their weekends nevertheless.



I wanted to share some news with regard to the shape of the staff team moving forward. Whilst September 2017 seems a way away, it is now that we have to start planning, in part, for the new academic year particularly with regard to any staff appointments we will be looking to make. To that end, adverts have this week been posted in the Times Educational Supplement for a Deputy Head (Pastoral) and for a Director of Music. The first is a new position to further strengthen the excellent pastoral care that the school offers and to assist with the strategic management of all aspects of school life. The second is to find a successor who will protect and develop the legacy which Mrs Louw and Mrs Young between them have created. We have been so lucky that Mrs Young stepped back into the breach to take on the role for a year. Mrs Young's family are keen, however (and sadly), to redirect her energies back towards their care and the exciting projects that arose for her following her retreat from Hazelwood life the first time around!

The ads, with job descriptions and person specifications, also appear on the school website if you know of anyone who may be interested in either role. Applications close in ten days' time after which we will be interviewing the prospective candidates. I must also share with you the news that Mr Bradshaw will be leaving Hazelwood next month. As a part-time science teacher, Mr Bradshaw has found the travel time from home to school too demanding. He leaves to find alternative employment closer to home. We wish him all the best for the future. His teaching commitments will be picked up by other members of the existing staff team. Specific details will be shared in due course with those families and pupils directly affected.



Smiling through the snow with a little help from a cup of piping hot, hot chocolate!



In four weeks' time, Hazelwood School will be hosting a prestigious 'Teachmeet' which is an opportunity for staff from a number of schools to come together to share *best practice* and new ideas for approaching a range of teaching and curriculum challenges. We are delighted that our team will be at the heart of this wonderful event and that Mr Walton and Dr Orr will be leading the discussion. Not only will we get to share what works well here at Hazelwood, but we will also hear others' insights which may help further develop and refine our own classroom practice.

And finally I would like to thank the very many parents who, this week, have given up their time to come into school to one of the numerous meetings that have taken place. The week started off well with the gathering of the small, but energetic, HPA Committee Meeting. We discussed the different areas of the school and nursery that their raised funds will, with a little more research and discussion, look to benefit in the very near future. The 'wish-list' will benefit children across the school and nursery. The Senior Schools Information Evening and the Year 7 coffee morning were well attended and there was healthy debate and discussion at both. Having received feedback subsequent to the meetings, I am delighted that you felt the content and the school's approach to both meetings was informative, collaborative and supportive. I am keen for this to continue and will respond well to an email 'nudge' if you ever feel it not to be. As a surrogate parent to all your children, my ambition (and that of every member of the school's staff) for each Hazelwood pupil is for them to have the best education, time and childhood at Hazelwood possible. I was sorry that the snow put pay to the Form Reps meeting

on Friday but I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at Monday night's session on Child Mental Health, a growing and important matter for parents of young children and teenagers. It promises to be an interesting and informative session.

Have a great weekend.

LINDIE LOUW

For a list of emails/letters/texts sent home each week please see the 'Notice Board' further down the Nutshell.

News from The Nursery & Early Years

Another fun-filled week at the Early Years draws to a close and we are all eyes on the sky as we wait for the forecasted thunder-snow!

Fledglings 1 have continued to look at transport and the chalk roads around the room have created quite a buzz. They have also made ramps and tunnels out of junk modelling and have thoroughly enjoyed driving the cars over and through these.

Fledglings 2 have been looking at space and have even made their own telescopes, I hope they saw the giant moon on Thursday night – it was quite a sight to see. They have also been painting galaxies and creating number aliens. I was also tempted with their shape sandwiches, when I visited in the middle of the week!



Fledglings 2 learning a value lesson in engineering: If in doubt, use more tape!

Lower Robins have continued to look at the seasons and have had great fun making kites, ice-lollies and umbrellas. The forecasted wind will be good for their wind chimes. Upper Robins have been busy making a train, which is currently in its papier-mâché stage. The children have enjoyed making train tickets and are looking forward to a journey in their new train next week. In music, the children in Robins enjoyed singing nursery rhymes and enthusiastically used the shakers and claves to accompany them. We also explored the rhythm of footsteps as we went for a walk in the wood. But we had to be careful as you never know what you will find there!



This week in Skylarks the children have used their imagination to create their own sea animals as well as building up a wide range of vocabulary for animals we might find in the sea. They have explored the power of magnets and made their own magnetic fishing game. The children have enjoyed exploring lots of stories all about the sea and have been working hard to remember what has happened in the story, as well as trying to talk about what they liked. In music, Skylarks sang a range of nursery rhymes and songs with enthusiasm. They particularly enjoyed the 5 current buns song and accompanying Hickory Dickory Dock with the claves.

Oak have been making huge strides with their learning this week. They have started new phonics groups and I was very impressed when I listened to some of them read how fluent they are becoming. In the classrooms they have continued to explore ice and the Antarctic, very appropriate given the impending weather. They have created checklists to see what things they can spot, role played different scenarios with the small world toys and some of them have even attempted Antarctic maths sums. In music Oak explored long and short notes this week with the help of our bubbles. They discovered which instruments can make different sorts of notes and they enjoyed exploring the pitch of their voices.

Reminders for next week:

Please make sure to keep an eye on the website for any updates on the pending snow/ice. Any changes to normal days will be notified by Clarion call.

News from Hazelwood

Year 2 trip to Horniman Museum

On Monday Year 2 travelled to the Horniman museum to find out about the Ancient Egyptians. Did you know that the founder of the museum, Mr Horniman, once got a guided tour around Egypt from Howard Carter, the famous archaeologist who discovered Tutankhamun's tomb?



We began our visit by having a hands on session with the museum staff. We had to put on white gloves so that the oil on our hands wouldn't damage the artefacts. We felt just like real

archaeologists as we tried to work out what the different objects were. We looked at some mummy's bandages, a piece of sarcophagus and a death mask. We also looked at an Egyptian headrest but it did not look very comfortable! It was made out of very hard wood.

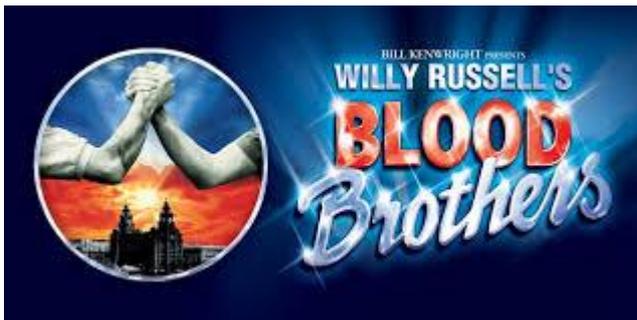
Next, we went to explore the museum. We went on a kind of treasure hunt to find the Egyptian exhibits. In the natural history hall, we found a mummified crocodile and the skeleton of a baboon. We learnt that many Egyptians kept baboons as pets. Then, we went to have a look at the aquarium. We were curious as to how many of the fish we saw might live in the River Nile.

We had a very good day and are excited to learn more about the Egyptians this term. Maybe one day one of us will be a real archaeologist and discover something amazing!



Dear Parents

Due to low ticket uptake, we will be cancelling the school trip to The New Victoria Theatre in Woking to see the Blood Brothers matinee on 21st January. However, we still have a number of tickets available and will be offering them at a reduced rate of £20 each (the seats are well situated in the stalls). However, as this is no longer a school trip, the tickets will be handed out beforehand, to enable people to make their own way there - please note that a coach will no longer be provided.



Should you be interested in tickets for yourselves, your children, family or friends, please email Tallin Clayton at claytont@hazelwoodschool.com by Wednesday 11th January. The price of £20 is heavily discounted for a brilliant show that was recently showing in The West End.

Once email confirmation has been given, the tickets are non-refundable.

Many thanks and warm New Year wishes,

Tallin Clayton

Knole Children's Book Festival 25-26 March 2017

A first-time event at the beautiful National Trust property in Sevenoaks! Go on-line to the Knole website to book for a great selection of children's authors and illustrators. Booking is essential as this will be a very popular weekend! We are so lucky to have this wonderful property and park on our doorstep. Please support this event!

Sevenoaks Bookshop - if you are in Sevenoaks do drop in to browse the lovely children's section plus the wonderful selection of books for you as parents and take time for a cuppa as there is a sitting area for tea and cakes! We source many of our books from the staff here and they also host literary events throughout the year culminating in the fabulous Sevenoaks Literary Festival every year in the autumn.

Bookmark Competition! Thank-you so much for the many entries for this competition! Judging is starting and we will announce the winners on World Book Day!

From the Librarians



Wearing your Hazelwood blazer to the Lord Mayor of London's Christmas Chapel Concert with your grandparents can land you tickets to the Lord Mayor's Children's Christmas Party at Mansion House. This is what happened to Richard C (Y7) this year. He is shown above, with his sisters Jaslyn and Victoria, being presented to the Lord Mayor, this time wearing a more subdued, but equally smart jacket and trouser combination. Victoria then made friends with an owl before sending it Hogwarts-way for it to spend time with Harry, Ron and Hermione.



At weekends, Richard dons a 'uniform' of a different kind, earning pocket money to sing at weddings and special occasions. His angelic demeanour has clearly carried favour with some of the other members of the choir. Being paid pocket money for his appearances clearly makes being a 'toy boy' all the more worthwhile!

Thank you again for putting on an open forum like today where there were some concerns highlighted. It speaks volumes about your openness and willingness to embrace the parent body. This type of meeting would never take place at other schools I know and any criticism is received very defensively. Which is just one of the reasons I am so impressed with Hazelwood. Nowadays schools have to be so much more 'customer focused' and meetings such as today's demonstrate your commitment to us.



Georgia P (Y5) and her partner Nathan P competed in the very prestigious 'Champions of Tomorrow' dance competition in Blackpool last Friday. Over the course of 3 months, they had to learn 8 one and a half minute routines to perfection. As if this wasn't hard enough, the routines had to be performed back to back for each round. We are incredibly proud of Georgia and all the hard work they have both put in.

They made it through to the semi-finals which for their first taste of this competition is amazing and a great place from

which to build in future years. **Congratulations** to them both.

Community Fund assists the Unique charity

One of the recent beneficiaries of the first distribution of funds from The Community Fund was local charity, UNIQUE which assists and supports its members in understanding chromosome disorders. One of their key thrusts is the creation and publication of a range of guides which provide interested families with information, help groups and further websites where they can seek support and answers to their questions and confusions. The first of these impressive guides has been completed and was made possible in part by the funds donated by the school. A link is included below to access this hugely important document. We are proud to have been able to support such a forward-thinking organisation within our community.

<http://www.rarechromo.org/familyguides/English/Transition%20FTNW.pdf>



Gallery All-change

The Gallery space in Reception has changed over the Christmas break. Featured within the now-famous blue frame are two works of incredible art from the Upper School's exploration of London. Both are magnificent and full of mastery and vision. Sitting in front is the Hazelwood stag, crafted by Mrs Tulett and representing the many icons of the school including the lion and dragon. Mysteriously the stag's antlers were snapped off on the night of the staff party!



Max's creativity will go on and on....

Whilst a fraction of the size of its original counterpart, this phenomenal model of the Titanic created by Max A is worthy of its own Hollywood movie. Made from scratch, using wood, cardboard, tape, glue and simply anything else in the family garage, Max worked over 20hrs non-stop last weekend to complete before school on Monday morning. It's not his first mammoth single handed build. He's built spitfires, biplanes and Bentley Blowers.

Under 8 Rugby

Unfortunately, the matches against St Michael's had to be abandoned due to adverse conditions on the roads which meant they could not reach us for the planned fixture. However, our Under 8's are a stoic bunch and they all participated in matches against each other here at Hazelwood.

The effort and enthusiasm from the boys was very good and teamwork, positive support and a desire to improve throughout the afternoon was evident – even though the weather was against us!

The U8C, U8D and U8E teams all played in a round robin tournament with some excellent positional play and development whilst showing improvement in the passing and handling aspects of the game. The ground was slippery but the boys ran into the spaces where they could, before being tackled by eager defences. Lots of tries were scored in the face of increasingly organised defensive lines.

Men of the tournament:
Harry B and Oliver M-S

The Under 8A's and U8B's played a match against each other showing excellent handling skills in fairly difficult playing conditions for fast flowing rugby. The boys were able to show their attacking skills with positive running forward and support after a tackle. The defence from both teams held up well and the boys worked together to keep the attackers at bay.

Men of the match:
Isaac J and Alex B

The afternoon was finished off with a match tea and lots of happy smiling faces warming up in the dining hall. We look forward to being able to show off our skills to another school very soon.

Finally, we got to use the special snow shovels which were bought at the HPA Christmas Fair three years ago. They did wonders, helped on by the sheer drive and determination of the staff at their helm. Special mention should go to Mrs Bilbrough, Mr Head, Mr Lloyd and Mr Reay. We couldn't have cleared the car park without you!

Oak explore How Many Polar Bears does it take to jump off an iceberg!

With the cold weather on its way, the children of Oak Reception have continued their exploration of all things polar. They have been immersed in imaginary play, finding about and drawing polar animals, collages and creating takeaway sums by jumping polar animals off icebergs! When the snow came on Thursday, they were the most prepared to tackle the extreme conditions!



Term-time Absence – Parent Reminder

As you know, we endeavour to publish all the school holiday dates well in advance, so that parents may plan family trips and other events during the long holiday periods and over weekend time. We encourage parents not to take their children out of school during term-time unless it is absolutely essential so as not to interrupt their learning.

Unless there are extenuating circumstances, term-time absences will be registered as unauthorised absence. Please be aware that this information may be given to senior schools as part of the transition process if they request it.

Any requests you wish to submit should be made in writing/via email to Mrs Low at louw1@hazelwoodschool.com, copy to headspa@hazelwoodschool.com. Thank you for your co-operation.



Hazelwood School

The alphabest of Ha-zelwood School

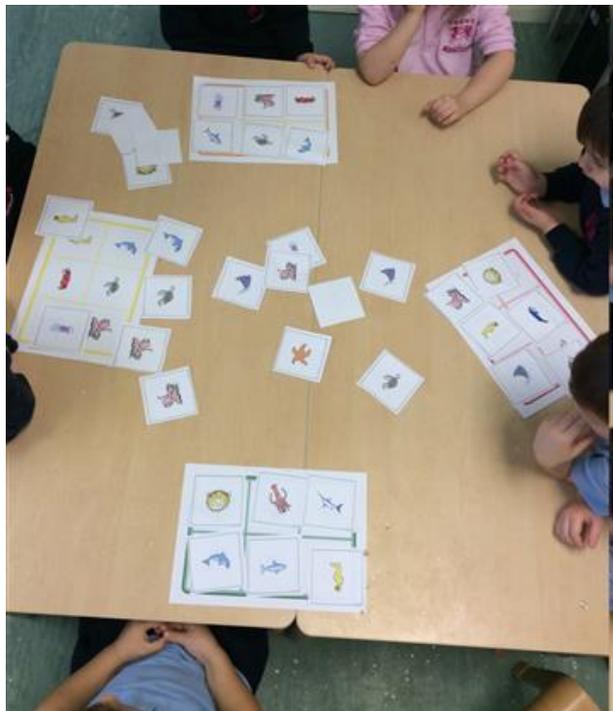
A **B**alanced **C**urriculum awaits every pupil who joins Hazelwood School. **D**esigned to **E**xcite and challenge, the range of subjects on offer, which includes **F**orest Skills and Philosophy for Children, encourages the children to think outside the box and to build levels of confidence. The twice weekly **G**ames afternoons present a chance to let off steam and hone new skills in pursuit of team glory. **H**azelwood **I**s **J**ustifiably proud of its reputation in music with its young musicians surpassing all expectations when they take to the stage to perform. **K**eeping things creative, drama at Hazelwood is equally **L**egendary with the Year 8 Play being a production overflowing with talent and maturity. **M**asterpieces of texture and imagination are crafted by the school's talented artists. All is celebrated in the weekly **N**utshell newsletter which **O**verflows with the weekly achievements of all the school's children as they strive to fulfil their **P**otential. The school's Gifted and Talented programme

stretches the most-able pupils, giving them access to a range and **Q**uality of opportunity worthy of the NACE award. Hazelwood's **R**eputation dates back to 1890 when Mr and Mrs Baily threw open the doors of the school for the very first time. Since then, countless generations of pupils have passed through those same heavy oak doors on their way to some of the country's very best senior schools, many of them clutching academic, sporting, artistic and all-round **S**cholarships. Hazelwood remains **T**ruer to the founders' original vision in its **U**nstinting pursuit of excellence whilst providing an environment which is supportive and child-centred. A **V**eritable **W**ealth of opportunity awaits at Hazelwood which **X**-cites and inspires a **Y**earning to learn and a **Z**est for life.

**For more information, please contact
Nick Tappin, Bursar and Director of
Admissions on 01883 733841 /
bursar@hazelwoodschool.com**



Copy of our latest A to Z editorial about the alpha-best of Hazelwood School.



At the Nursery this week, the children have been under the sea, exploring the skies above and thinking about the weather. From top to bottom, Fledglings make night-sky telescopes and put the finishing touches to their rocket whilst the children in Robins make kites out of symmetrical shapes and recreate the effects of wind using Mrs Rutter and a hairdryer. Skylarks create their own magnetic fishing game as they consider the properties of magnets albeit under the sea. Aqua-bingo tests their knowledge of sea creatures. How many could they name?



Catch me if you can!



Watch me fly!



That won't hold me back



One final stretch



How many does it take?



One last push for the line...

The 2nd Rugby team enjoyed victory against St Michael's on Wednesday. They battled hard and as these photos show, overcame some man-on-five-man-marking! Focus and determination shone through and the gritters from Hazelwood proved themselves to be far from quitters. Well done on some powerful surges and drives for the line.



News from the Kitchen

Please don't forget that the new menus for both Hazelwood School and the Nursery & Early Years are now on their respective websites under The Parents' Sections.

Music Timetable

The weekly music timetable can be viewed on the Music Notice Board outside the Dining room in the courtyard. I will endeavour to have the coming week's music timetable on the notice board by the end of the school day each Friday. Please ensure that your child brings their instrument and music in on the relevant day. It is also important for them to take these books and instruments home when they do not need them in school.

Sports Department

Match Reports should be taken to Mrs Greenwood or emailed to her on headspa@hazelwoodschool.com by Friday afternoon ahead of assembly on Monday morning. If your child is nominated as captain, please encourage them to write the report in time for the assembly. The children do like to share their successes with the rest of the school. Thank you.

Another week of strong results from the girls' netball teams

U13's played Aberdour

U13A won: 19-14 GOM: Sasha T

U13A won: GOM: Ella S

U11 & U10 played Holmewood House

U11A won 12-10 GOM: Emilia S

U11B won 9-4 GOM: Felicity C

U11 C won 2-1 GOM: Eloise S

U11D drew 2-2 GOM: Francesca W

U10A won 14-4 GOM: Clara B & Michelle M

U10 B won 9-4 GOM: Elsa T

U8 & 9 played Copthorne Prep

U9 A lost GOM: The Whole team

U9 B lost 4-2 GOM Lydia O

U8A lost 3-0 GOM: Alicia G and Florine R

U8B lost GOM: The whole team

(Valuable lesson learnt by the U8 and U9 teams: don't play on a Tuesday. Stick to a Thursday. Match results are much better!!)

Notice Board

Communication sent home this week

The following letters have been sent home this week. If you need a duplicate copy, please contact the School Office.

Year 1 & 2 Chestnut Class Assemblies – Y1&2
Year 4 Senior School Information Evening follow up
Year 5 Bowles Residential Trip
Year 8 Trip
Ski Trip

Key Events for Next Week

Monday 16 January

0900 - PSHEE – CYA Talk Y4 – Y8 (Mental Health in young people)

1630

1900- Parents Surrey Youth Advisors (CYA) Parents' Evening

2000 (Mental health in young people)

Tuesday 17 January

1645- Y6 Play Rehearsal – Melons at the Vicarage

1815

1800- [Nursery Staff Training Evening](#)

2000

Wednesday 18 January

1430 Rugby: U13A, U11A and B Solefield Away
Rugby: U12A, U10A and B v Solefield Home
Rugby: U11C, U10C v Solefield and Handcross Park Home
Netball: U13 v Radnor House Away 1600 start
Netball: U12 v Radnor House Away 1430 start
Netball: U11D v Derwent Lodge Away
Netball: U10D v Hilden Grange Away

Thursday 19 January

1430 Rugby: U9A, B, C and D v Solefield Home
Rugby: U8A, B and C v Solefield Away
Netball: U9 A – C v Holmewood House Home
Netball: U9D Rose Hill Tournament Away 1400 start
Netball: U8A and B v Holmewood House Away

Friday 20 January

1645- Y6 Play Rehearsal – How to eat like a child
1815

Saturday 21 January

~~1200 – Blood Brothers, Optional Theatre Trip, Y5 – Y8~~
~~1800~~



Hazelwood School Sports Hall on Saturdays
5pm to 6pm Years 1, 2 & 3

18th & 25th February and 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th March
Cost £42

Open to all boys and girls, fun sessions with no
experience necessary

Limited places

To book a place or for further information contact
Paul Greenwood - pgreenwood@dsl.pipex.com
07971 248772

Current DBS and Safeguarding & Protecting Children Certificates held



The 20th GRAND HEVER QUIZ

Saturday 28th January

7.00 for 7.30pm

Guthrie Pavilion, Hever Castle

The evening centres on a quiz with prizes for the glorious winning team. It is fuelled by a three course meal in the interval and oiled by a cash bar. Light relief comes from a roving magician and riches from the grand raffle prizes.

Tables of ten cost £200 and individual tickets £20 - however many of you there are, we will fit you in.

All profits to St Peter's Church, Hever.
You can book via www.bookitbee.com/hever
or by phone from Elly Heard on **01732 865564**.

Please come. Your support is greatly appreciated.

GILLIAN WALTON



- Are the train strikes the icing on the cake?
- Do you dread going into work?
- When you check your mobile device are you filled with stress and tension?
- Is your 'To Do' List overwhelming?

If you can relate to this, you may be suffering the early signs of burnout. Having lost direction in your career plan, you feel fed up and unmotivated.

Working with me, a professional development coach, can help you avoid work burnout and regain career happiness. I can help you change negative thoughts, increase motivation and become happier at home as well as at work.

For more information
gillian@purpleskiesconsulting.co.uk
07799772004

www.purpleskies.co.uk



The Oxted Players present



A Fun Filled

Family Pantomime

Once upon a time...

by Paul Barren and Sarah Dyson

13th ~ 21st
January 2017

Barn Theatre,
Oxted

Child £9
Adult £10

Box Office: 01883 724852

also on-line at www.oxtedplayers.co.uk or at www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk



Affiliated to the
National Operatic and
Dramatic Association

