



GUILDFORD
HIGH SCHOOL

JUNIOR SCHOOL

Spring Newsletter 2022



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The school is a caring and friendly community in which everyone is valued, and the pupils do not see differences in each other or if they do, they celebrate the fact.

ISI Report 2021



WELCOME FROM THE HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL



Spring has well and truly sprung in the Junior School this term and just like the busy bees now gracing our flowerbeds, the Junior School has been a hive of activity! This term's newsletter is bursting with the amazing events the girls have been involved in from productions to school trips and workshops. Their love of performing continues to bloom with an array of class assemblies, music concerts and festivals as well as productions which have all enabled the girls to shine and showcase their talent.

Our annual Wellbeing Week encouraged the girls to try new things and connect with people around them in line with this year's theme 'Be Brave'. This combined with our World Book Day activities and costume parade was a delight and highlighted the impact that books and the joy of reading can have on our lives.

On the sporting field, the girls have continued to blossom with great participation in sport events such as the Gym & Dance Display and the array of fixtures, tournaments and festivals taking place across the year groups. I have been thoroughly impressed with the perseverance, resilience and sheer determination that is shown by each of our girls no matter the context.

As a school and wider community, we have reflected on the importance of showing gratitude for the opportunities we have as we return to a full calendar of events that we have dearly missed. I would like to thank the Junior School staff for all their hard work in creating meaningful experiences for pupils to enjoy, our parents for supporting this and to the girls for bringing bright and bountiful energy to school every single day!

As we come to the end of the Lent Term, we say farewell to several members of staff: Mrs Isabelle Chapman, Mrs Carolyn Kirk, Mr Tom Collins, and Mrs Clare Burch. On behalf of the whole Guildford High community, thank you for all you have done and we wish you all the very best for your future endeavours.

I wish you a restful Easter holidays and I look forward to welcoming you all back into the Trinity Term.

Mr Allistair Williamson

WELLBEING WEEK

During Wellbeing Week, we enjoyed lots of lovely treats and, as the theme of the week was 'Be Brave', we thought about trying to be braver in everyday life. We had lots of fun activities at break time run by the Year 6 girls like sing-a-long, danceathon, writing for pleasure and netball. We also had the opportunity to learn circus skills such as plate spinning and try the trapeze! On Tuesday, we really enjoyed watching Encanto, wearing our cosy slippers and cuddling our soft teddies. Most of all, our highlights included having delicious ice cream in our classrooms and trying our hand at Jujitsu, which was great fun because we learnt how to defend ourselves. We finished the week with a lunchtime disco and it was exciting for some of us to get autographs from a band! We thought Wellbeing Week was a fantastic experience for all of us.

Class 4M



PRE-PREP SPRING CONCERT

In the 'Hop into Spring' Concert everyone put lots of effort into their singing and their poems. We loved watching Reception singing 'I'm a Little Chick'. Year 1 sang 'In My Garden' which was quite complicated to sing and had a funny ending when they all said 'But we don't like beans!' We loved singing our Year 2 songs and made our Mummies cry when we sang 'You're the Best Mum for Me'. Singing to our grown-ups was great fun because we could watch their faces, especially when we were talking about our Mums being chocoholics and searching around the house for chocolate! Our parents clapped along to 'Spring Fever' and joined in with all the actions which made us all smile and sing even louder.

Year 2



KS2 SPRING CONCERT

After the silence for our choirs and ensembles over the last two years and the musical restrictions placed on us all, words cannot describe the electric atmosphere in the Senior School Hall for our Spring Concert, a highlight we have all missed. Celebrating the musical ability of every girl in KS2 along with their enthusiasm, talent and determination, this was a Spring Concert we will cherish.

A warm and appreciative audience showing their delight with rapturous applause, the support of the girls for their friends in different items in the programme and the range of instruments on display which any school would envy: an incredible mix which we are so fortunate to enjoy here at GHS. My thanks go to everyone involved in making this year's KS2 Spring Concert so memorable.

Without the outstanding musicianship of the ensemble directors and their endless dedication and enthusiasm, concerts like this are not possible. My thanks go to the team who work tirelessly each week coaching the girls; but my most heartfelt thank you is to the girls – you really are exceptional!

Mrs Rachel Wardell



WOODWIND CONCERT

The Woodwind family were represented brilliantly at a concert by our talented girls playing flutes, clarinets, saxophones and a tenoroon. With traditional folk tunes, familiar film themes, enchanting duets and some extremely complicated Jazz, via every style in between, it was obvious to the appreciative audience just how much dedication the girls have put into learning to play and the love they have for this wonderful family of instruments. It was the perfect end to our Wellbeing Week.

Mrs Rachel Wardell

STRING CONCERT

The String Concert was a feast for the ears. Each polished performance stood out as a masterpiece with so much effort behind it, from the teachers at school to the parents' help at home with practice. Violinists and cellists were joined by a viola player and 5 harpists, all of whom obviously loved playing their instruments. The audience were fantastic, supportive and encouraging as each girl stood up to perform. Everyone was very excited to welcome the Year 2 girls who held the audience with their marvellous performances.

Mrs Rachel Wardell



INTER-HOUSE MUSIC FESTIVAL

Since half term, the Music Room has been buzzing with exciting performances by the girls in preparation for the two Music Festival Finals Days. The Pre-Prep piano, strings and recorder classes showcased how confident the younger girls were with some very expressive playing on show. In the Ensembles class, every girl in the Pre-Prep performed with courage and sang so beautifully.

There were 168 performances throughout the KS2 Festival Finals Day from a wide selection of instruments. The girls really enjoyed listening to everyone's pieces and there was such a variety of music being played. The whole Music Festival was great fun to be part of: whether it was a solo piece or an ensemble, everyone performed really well.

Congratulations to Abbot House who won the Pre-Prep Cup with Carroll House winning the KS2 trophy.

Mrs Rachel Wardell

YEAR 4 TAIKO DRUMMING

Year 4 were treated to a wonderful workshop, learning how to play the Japanese Taiko drums. When we played the drums we had to hit them very hard with the sticks – the bachi. We could really feel the vibrations and see the skin of the drum vibrate. We were taught how to stand and play the drums. We had to stand in a lunge position otherwise we might have fallen over! The drums were fun to play and we could express ourselves by how hard we hit the Taiko. We learnt lots of words to help us with our drumming ‘don docho cara ca su’ su means space. We also learnt to count to 4 in Japanese: 1: ‘ichi’, 2: ‘ni’, 3: ‘san’, 4: ‘shi’. We really enjoyed the workshop.

Class 4S



YEAR 5 STEEL PAN WORKSHOP

Year 5 had an amazing treat - an hour of playing steel pans! During the workshop, we discovered that steel pans originally came from Trinidad and Tobago and were (and are still) made from empty oil cans from big cargo ships. The cans were left on the island polluting the landscape, but the locals discovered that the rain made beautiful sounds when landing on the empty cans. They subsequently spent hours hollowing out the tops of the cans, hammering out different pitched notes and creating the steel pan!

We were taught how to play a calypso and there were coloured dots on certain notes on each pan which helped us to play. We had to hold the beaters gently and play the pans carefully to make the best sound. Some of the pans play deep notes and some play high pitched notes. It was a wonderful workshop and we all enjoyed our chance to play some Caribbean music.

Shreya, 5S



O’ ‘WHAT A KNIGHT!’

Year 4 were very excited to perform ‘What a Knight!’ but were also a little bit nervous. However, throughout the play there was an important moral, to be brave, so we were and really enjoyed working on our production. From the sound effects to the face paints, the costumes to the props, and the jokes to the songs; ‘What a Knight’ was a brilliant play! When we performed, all the parents were laughing throughout. The jokes were very funny but you had to listen carefully! There were lots of different characters with unique abilities to make us laugh. Our costumes were great and we enjoyed wearing them, showing off our characters (and face paints) to the audience; they helped the audience know who was a goodie and who was a baddie. When rehearsing, we enjoyed learning all the songs and adding actions to them. Performing to a live audience was the icing on the cake, it made all the hard work worthwhile.

Class 4M & 4S



ART ROUND UP

We have had another busy and productive term in the Art room.

- Reception have been learning about Aboriginal Art, creating ink tiger paintings for Chinese New Year, and building 3D mermaid shell sculptures.
- Year 1 have explored sculpture by using clay and making papier-mâché vessels in the style of Picasso.
- Year 2 started the term by creating Alexander Calder inspired continuous line portraits, then learning about pattern and creating block prints inspired by Orla Kiely.
- Year 3 have been forming textile skills and learning different stitches.
- Year 4 built their portraiture skills, learning how to use grids and techniques to draw facial features.
- Year 5 Street Art, Mexican artist Diana Garcia's surreal mythical creatures and Banksy stencils.
- Year 6 Sculpture project, planning for and building willow sculptures of cacti.

A highlight from this term was Years 1 to 6 being invited to join the IAPS Art competition with the theme of 'My Role Model'. We have been working on these portraits in lesson time, using the Turner prize winning artist Chris Ofili to inspire a wet-on-wet watercolour technique to add a unique element to our entries. The portraits that have been produced are outstanding; I have been completely blown away by the effort and enthusiasm the girls have ploughed into the project. It is going to be a very difficult selection process to choose the paintings to send away.

The girls also enjoyed participating in a whole school project during Wellbeing Week, uniting us as a community. This year we recreated ink drawings from Charlie Mackesy's book 'The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse'. This exercise gave the girls an opportunity to break from our curriculum, allowing time to enjoy Mackesy's illustrations and explore a new medium. As a gift to the staff, we will be making a special display of the drawings in the Junior School Staff Room.

Miss Amy Langfield



ILLUSTRATOR WORKSHOPS

When Illustrator and Poet Chris White came to visit we were thrilled, and every year group was able to spend time with him. Each group drew a different hybrid animal and wrote a poem about it. Year 6 voted on the parts of our animal; it was part beaver, elephant, giraffe, ant and pig. We wrote a poem about what we would do with it if it were our pet. When the workshop was over we asked some questions. Our favourite reply to the question 'if you could give three bits of advice to future authors, illustrators or poets then what would you say?' Chris said "draw lots, write lots and read lots."

Georgia, 6W



RECEPTION VISIT BOCKETTS FARM

Reception had the most wonderful day learning about the animals on the farm. We went on a rather bumpy tractor ride to visit some of the residents - pigs, horses, goats, sheep and deer to name a few. We then went to pet some animals. We met Snowball the chicken who was incredibly chatty, Sunny the gigantic rabbit and guinea pig friends Cinnamon and Ginger. In the afternoon we headed to the pig race. It was a close race and the joint winners were Ariana Grunte and Marcus Rasherford! We climbed a big hill to meet the alpacas and llamas who were very fluffy and large. We finished the day with a crazy half hour in the playground, climbing, swinging and sliding the day away. We had a brilliant day!

Class RP



YEAR 1 VISIT BIRDWORLD

Year 1 have been learning all about the animal kingdom, so to learn more about birds we took a trip to Birdworld. We enjoyed the noisy cockatoos, the smelly penguins and the funny pelicans! We laughed at how silly the penguins looked when they waddled on land, but marvelled at how graceful they were diving for fish. Whilst we watched the pelicans have their lunch, we discovered lots of interesting facts about pelicans (who knew they could eat a whole duck?!). We found some snowy owls who looked just like Kiara and Cutey our kindness owls, watched Mr Collins perform a dance off with a cockatoo and even spotted some dinosaurs!

Class 1H



YEAR 2 VISIT BROOKLAND

Year 2 went on an exciting trip to Brookland Museum. We explored the aircraft factory and saw an old plane that had been discovered by a group of Americans who were searching for the Loch Ness Monster! We practised our sanding skills to make a propeller. It was very messy, but we all had a go. In the afternoon, we were lucky enough to go on board the Concorde, which was one of my favourite parts of the day. We learnt that it would take 20 seconds for the Concorde to fly from Brookland Museum to Guildford High School. We finished the day by visiting the Bus Museum and we all had the chance to squeeze an old-fashioned horn!

Maya, 2W



YEAR 2 VISIT THE DISCOVERY CENTRE

There were five rooms for us to explore at The Discovery Centre. We saw so many exciting things, from a VR skeleton, to a machine that projected different climates, landscapes and dimensions onto a sandpit below. There was even a floor piano where you could step on the different keys and play a tune. The workshop was really interesting, and we learnt all about how light and sound can travel through the air. We could even see how clean our teeth were by using ultraviolet light. My favourite part of the day was playing a 'Hit the Button' game in the forces and movement zone, as well as creating an underwater vortex in the water zone.

Grace, 2W



YEAR 3 VISIT FISHBOURNE ROMAN PALACE

Our trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace was really interesting. We enjoyed looking at the mosaics, their designs were very beautiful. The mosaic with the skeleton in it was a particular highlight. The most enjoyable part was the workshop as we were able to explore different stations. In the workshop we pretended to be slaves and had to find the Prince and Princess in disguise. In the kitchen we used the old Roman way to make bread and grind the wheat to make the flour, but it was quite hard to push the grinding stone; having 2 people grind the stone made it much easier.

Class 3IB



YEAR 3 VISIT RHS WISLEY

The sun shone all day on the Year 3 trip to RHS Wisley. We went to the education centre and looked at the lovely exotic flowers, feeling the different textures of their leaves. We loved the sweet smell of flowers that filled the room. We planted our own seeds; the seeds were all mixed up so it'll be a surprise to see what colour our plants will be! We went outside and saw beautiful camellias and rhododendrons, and picked up the flowers that lay on the floor. We had a lovely picnic in the warm sunshine and played in the gardens. We walked around the gardens, ending up back at our coach ready for the journey back to school.

Leila, 3OB



YEAR 4 VISIT WINCHESTER SCIENCE CENTRE

When Year 4 visited the Winchester Science Centre, we went to the planetarium where we saw all of the planets and moons which was amazing and made us feel like we were flying in space. We had a sound workshop where we got into pairs and had a clicker; one of us would close our eyes and our partner would click it above, behind, in front and either side of their head. We had to point to where the sound was coming from - it was quite tricky! The workshop leader also showed us how to play the Rilke tube with fire. It was really cool!

Etta & Maya, 4M



YEAR 5 VISIT NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM

Year 5 visited the National Army Museum to learn about various events from WWII. We started with a Blitz workshop where we learnt about different jobs people had during the Blitz while the soldiers were fighting. Jobs included firefighters who put out bomb fires, and air raid wardens who sounded the alarm, to make sure everyone was safe. In the second workshop, we discussed how parachutes are made, and built our own in groups. We competed against each other to see which parachute was the slowest and which was most accurate. We came away having had a fun day and learnt a lot!

Michelle & Lucy, 5S



YEAR 6 VISIT PAINSHILL PARK

Everyone was buzzing with excitement when we arrived at the learning centre at Painshill Park. We went on a long walk and saw many interesting landmarks. We walked to the den building station and, in groups of 4 or 5, collected wood to build a den which had to be waterproof. The outdoor leader threw water over our dens with us inside them. Some people got rather wet whilst some stayed perfectly dry! We then enjoyed some orienteering. We received a map, compass and a question sheet and then had a time limit to get back to the education centre. We gained points by answering questions about landmarks on the way back and punch holes in our sheet, but lost points for every minute over the time limit. It was great fun.

Sophia M 6J



WORLD BOOK DAY 2022

World Book Day was phenomenal! It was amazing to see everyone in their incredible costumes. There were lots of interesting activities to enjoy. During assembly we had a costume parade and saw everyone's smiles and laughter as classes were twirling around in their costumes. Openbox ran story-telling workshops and, in the afternoon, Kenn and Iain put on an entertaining pantomime called Betty and the Shoemaker. As usual our cheeks were aching from all the laughing, and our voices were hoarse. There was also a dance workshop which was based on Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. As an exciting end to the day, we had a World Book Day themed PE lesson.

Kyra & Siena, 4S



OPENBOX WORKSHOPS

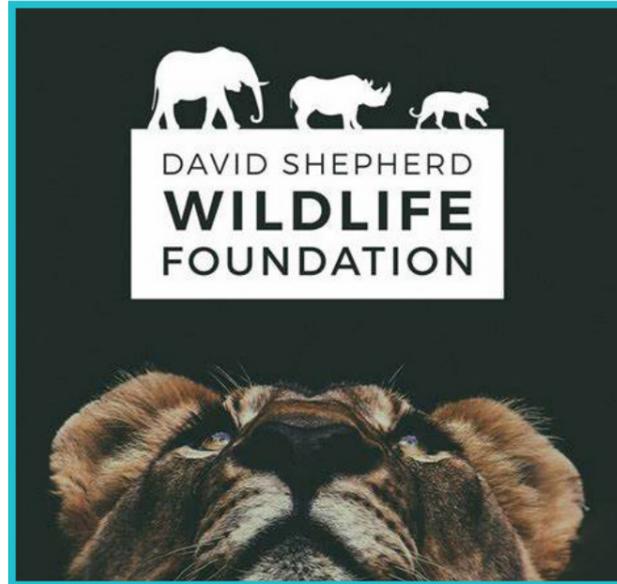
We have had another busy term with plenty of visits from Kenn and Iain from Openbox! Reception was excited to learn all about the types of creatures; the girls 'shrunk' to the size of bees, spiders, worms and millipedes, wriggling and learning oodles of facts. Year 5 discovered that some unique animals such as sloths, howler monkeys, boa-constrictor snakes and leaf cutter ants all live in the rainforest. They most enjoyed an interesting discussion about deforestation and possible solutions to help the planet. Other visits have included their infamous World Book Day performance and workshops which the whole school thoroughly enjoyed. We look forward to welcoming Kenn and Iain back in the Trinity Term for more fun and exciting learning outside of the classroom.



WILDLIFE FOUNDATION TALK

Reception and Year 1 enjoyed a talk hosted by the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation. The girls learnt all about the terrific tigers and the amazing things they can do. Evelyn in RB was amazed to learn how their stripes camouflage them in the wild! We also learnt how tigers are becoming an increasingly endangered animal and there are so few left in the wild that they could all fit into a football pitch. Thea in RP was particularly concerned by this, telling us how she now plans to fly to India in the summer holidays and help tigers find food!

Miss Laura Brooks



YEAR 2 HEALTHY LIVING WORKSHOP

Year 2 were visited by scientist Rachel and her science machine. Unfortunately, the machine was broken but she hoped we could help fix it by learning about healthy eating habits. There were lots of interesting activities to complete, including a 5-a-day adventure. The repairs were almost done when a monster appeared who tried to persuade us to clean our teeth with fruit juice instead of water! Luckily, we had learnt enough to know this was not correct and were able to solve a final riddle to successfully hatch a "baby" science machine.

Class 2S



YEAR 4 ABI ELPHINSTONE AUTHOR VISIT

Abi Elphinstone, who is a very famous children's author, came and spoke to Year 4. She discussed with us how to be an author and told us all her tips. One of her tips was to not be afraid of failing. She inspired us all because she received 96 returns from publishers yet she still carried on and succeeded. She showed us lots of books which she has written like 'The Dreamsnatcher' series and explained that she wrote them based on her life experiences. She shared how she was inspired to write the story 'Sky Song' which is the book we are reading in English. We all really enjoyed it and are looking forward to reading more of her books.

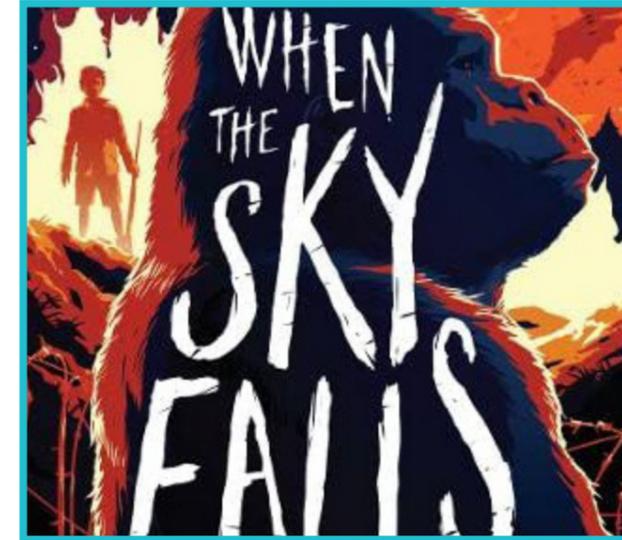
Zoe & Leila, 4M



YEAR 5 PHIL EARLE AUTHOR VISIT

The author Phil Earle virtually came to visit Year 5 to talk to them about his book, 'When The Sky Falls'. This book is about a boy called Joseph who is sent to the city to live with his grandmother's friend during the Blitz. Phil told us all about his childhood and, surprisingly, he did not like books until he was an adult. He told us that you do not have to have magical powers to be a superhero. Eshanee and I read him our first-person encounter from Joseph's point of view who is the main character from the story. He said he loved our descriptions of Joseph. We really enjoyed meeting Phil and hope to see him again!

Alice, 5C



A NEW PARTNERSHIP: HEART FELT TIPS

This term, the Junior School have worked collaboratively in a rewarding partnership with the charity 'Heart Felt Tips'. Set up by artist Jeremy Houghton, the charity aims to improve the accessibility of stationary supplies for children. Thanks to everyone's generosity, we have exceeded our target of 110 pencil cases and have been able to order another 150 which we will fill and send to the charity next term. Our first set of pencil cases are going to a school in West Sussex and another in Guildford. We look forward to working more with this brilliant charity and helping as many children as we can!

Jamie & Lauren, 6W



YEAR 6 COMMUNITY CONCERT AT CHRIST CHURCH

After so long without an audience, we were delighted to be invited to perform for the 'Thursdays at Two Club' at Christ Church in Guildford. This lovely group of seniors meets every week for a talk, or an activity followed by tea and cake.

A group of Year 6 pupils volunteered themselves to play their fabulous musical pieces to a very welcoming audience on the last Thursday in February. The music was a wonderful mix of classical pieces from the violin and piano to modern guitar duets, finishing with a beautifully melancholic piece on the French horn. The girls acquitted themselves wonderfully both during their performances and afterwards whilst chatting with members of the audience. It was a real privilege to accompany them and be able to see them perform.

Mrs Jenni Hall



GYM AND DANCE DISPLAY

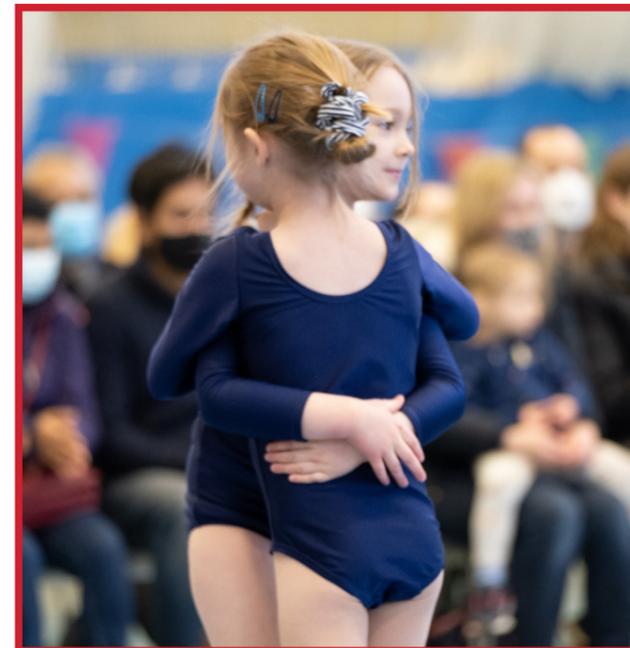
It was a joy to have a full Gym and Dance display after being deprived for two years! Girls from Reception to Year 6 worked incredibly hard in their PE lessons to explore their given dance themes and deepen their understanding of the topic. They created amazing choreography all based around concepts they had learned in other subjects.

Well, what an event it was. It was wonderful to see our Pre-Prep performers take to the stage first and show real confidence performing in front of parents and teachers. We all enjoyed a dance together at the end which was a precious return to a shared dance floor many of us have missed!

By the afternoon, KS2 girls wowed us with a range of performances in Samba, Roman Battle, Holi Celebration, and a very contemporary, emotional piece from Year 6. For our Gym Squads the afternoon highlighted the plethora of talent we have in our competing Gym teams; we are always so impressed by their dedication and polished performances. It was a joy to surprise both Pre-Prep and KS2 girls with a performance from the "Senior Gym" teacher's team, although, there was a great deal of injury rehabilitation over half term in the PE Department as a result!

Congratulations to Abbot House who lifted the inter-house gym trophy at the end of the afternoon.

Miss Georgie Dustin



TROPHIES, SILVER MEDALS & INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS

Like every year, our gymnasts demonstrated impeccable determination and resilience in a busy season.

Early in the season, the U9 team competed at Tormead. The team consisting of Avni, Honor, Rose, Elodie, Leila and Jessica finished 5th overall, performing their very best on every discipline, with Jessica also finishing 5th individually.

The following weekend saw the U10 and U11 teams competing at Haberdashers School. The U11 team (Sofia, Jamie, Sophia, Heidi and Jessica) performed brilliantly and came an amazing 7th whilst also taking home the Endeavour trophy! A special commendation goes to Jessica for stepping in last minute when Georgia sadly had to pull out due to Covid. In the U10 team, Otilie, Isla, Aila, Michelle and Lena performed a synchronised group floor and placed 6th. Through their individual rotations, they were stunning to gain the highest team score. Overall the team came 4th and Otilie was crowned Individual Champion - a huge congratulations!

Later in the season, a team of 5 gymnasts also competed in the Surrey U9 Floor and Tumbling Competition at Croydon High. Lydia, Elodie, Honor, Leila and Jessica competed beautifully in a floor routine and two different tumble runs, resulting in silver medals. Jessica scored the 4th highest combined total individually.

After a long anticipated wait, the girls were eager to compete at the ISGA Gymnastics National Finals after 2 years! Despite Covid and other hurdles, GHS stepped up to the challenge and were all stunning against some tough competition.

Altogether, with the other GHS team results, we won a total of 10 trophies and were awarded the 3rd highest scoring school. This was an incredible achievement during a difficult time battling with Covid and injuries. We are super proud of all our gymnasts.

Mrs Tara Oxley



IAPS QUALIFIERS & INTER-HOUSE SUCCESS IN A BUSY TERM OF NETBALL

It has been an incredibly busy term for netball, with girls competing in fixtures, tournaments, Surrey Netball, inter-house netball and the IAPS Qualifiers!

The IAPS team gave a great performance and should be very proud of themselves. Tara, Lauren, Jessica, Louisa, Charlotte, Prisha, Heidi and Elizabeth had some great game play and tough matches but were unfortunate to be knocked out of the qualifiers by the team who went on to be the overall winners.

The same team were selected for the Surrey Netball tournament and there were some great matches and effort by all involved!

All girls were very enthusiastic to play their inter-house netball matches across all year groups, with Haig Brown coming 1st, followed by Watts 2nd, Abbot 3rd and Caroll 4th. Well done to all teams!

Other netball highlights' this term have included the various U8-U11 matches against Hoe Bridge, Tormead, St Catherine's, The Hawthorn's, The Study, Surbiton High and Halstead. The girls have also taken part in tournaments with the U8 and U10 tournaments at St George's, U11's at St George's, Hawthorns and Surbiton High. The U11 whole year group tournament at Surbiton High was a particularly good success, with the B, C and E teams all placing 1st, the D and F teams placing 2nd, and the A team came 3rd respectively. Super effort girls!

Miss Amy Llyod



IAPS QUALIFYING, ESSA CHAMPIONSHIPS & LIFESAVING TRAINING IN SWIMMING

The swimming team have had some fabulous results this term. The U8-U11 home galas against both Halstead and St Catherine's were won comfortably.

Most recently, selected swimmers for the U10 and U11 teams swam at our very own IAPS Qualifying Round. The IAPS U11 squad selected included Thea and Savannah (our Swim Captains this year), Jamie, Charlotte and Jessica (as a reserve). The IAPS U10 squad selected included Aila, Isla, Ella, Emily and Carissa. The girls recorded some fast times on the day and we are hopeful of qualifying for the National IAPS Finals in June, although we are awaiting the results.

The ESSA (Surrey Round) Primary Team Championships took place at the Spectrum. It was a combined U10 and U11 team which was selected for both the Medley and Freestyle relays, swimming in the medium school category against tough opposition including a mixed team from Bishopsgate. The girls performed brilliantly after months of racing practice and relay takeovers in squad training, coming 2nd place in both events. It was a great effort by all swimmers in both relays, with the medley swimmers being Thea (backstroke), Aila (breaststroke), Isla (butterfly) and Charlotte (front crawl) and the freestyle relay team including Aila, Charlotte, Jamie and Thea. The tremendous results of this event means we qualify for the next round in May!

The annual U9A and U10A invitational swimming gala held in March was also a great success, with 7 schools involved. The U10A team were the overall winners of the gala, with the U9A very close to winning but missing out by a handful of points. We also had plenty of top 3 placings, winning medals, including from the U10A team: Aila (breaststroke individual) and Isla (butterfly) came 1st in their events, and from the U9A team Evelyn (backstroke) came 2nd, Sophie (butterfly) came 2nd and Kai Li (breaststroke) came 3rd.

Following the successful lifesaving training led by Mr T Collins, a team were selected for the SSSA 'It's A Fish Out' Lifesaving Competition held in Dorking Sports Centre. The girls who took part were Ella, Lauren, Florence, Zara, Holly, Georgia, Hettie and Rosie. After a very successful and enjoyable event, GHS were awarded the 'Best Newcomer' trophy!

Miss Amy Llyod



MEDALS AWARDED AT CROSS COUNTRY & BIATHLON MEETS

It has been fantastic to have the girls running and swimming in such a variety of events this term. The cross country club has hosted all KS2, with Years 5 and 6 before half term, and Years 3 and 4 after half term. The girls who attended have been working hard with a mixture of hill sprint training, orienteering and fitness building longer runs.

The U11 cross country team, alongside the Senior School teams, competed in the cross country relay event. The girls placed 1st with a phenomenal overtake on the final leg. After a quiet few weeks, we then had two cross country meets in the space of one week. We hosted an invitational cross country meet, with over 350 athletes participating, one of our biggest ever! A huge well done to our U10 team who won their age group. We also placed in both U9 and U11 categories. St Catherine's then hosted a cross country meet, inviting 5 other schools and their respective U8, U9, U10 and U11 teams. It was fantastic to walk away from the event with an overall win, as well as winning the U9, U10 and U11 categories. Gold medals for Emily and Jessica, silver medals for Alice and Sienna, and bronze medals for Isla and Isabel.

The biathletes have also been working hard with fantastic results across all age groups. The U11 and U10 teams headed to Lambrook School for a wet and muddy biathlon. The girls have to transition from the swim to the run as fast as they can. All the girls in KS2 will get the opportunity to have a go at a biathlon later in the summer term with the annual Dip and Dash event.

The U10 and U11 teams, alongside the Senior School teams, raced at the British Biathlon Finals in Bath. The U10 team came 2nd, with Alice placing 1st. In our U11 category, the team came 1st with a bronze medal for Isla, 4th place for Savannah and 5th for Emily. Finally, as well as some senior girls, Jessica came 5th in the U12 category with the team scoring 2nd.

Mr Tom Collins



HOCKEY AT GHS

Hockey continues to be a popular sport here at GHS. Indoor hockey club has been running since September with a huge take up from Years 3-6. This term the hockey squad A teams focused their training on match play and refining their skills. The U10 As enjoyed a competitive tournament at Rowan School and the U9s travelled down to PGS for the day to play against 15 other schools. Squads also enjoyed matches against Cranleigh and Tormead and were particularly proud of their victory at the Amesbury fixtures! What a fantastic season of hockey.

Alice, 5C



EQUESTRIAN CHAMPIONS

The pupils have had a busy term of show jumping events. They have placed in numerous classes from 60cm-80cm heights for J4S Competitions meaning GHS are rivalling the top positions in the team league. The team of Amelie, Elizabeth and Keira qualified for the hotly contested Winter Show Jumping National Finals in Wales in late March. The girls had some great results with placings in all the classes they entered. The team came 2nd in the 80cm league on Saturday and on Sunday they were team champions on the 60cm Championship and came 5th in the 80cm Championship. Some fabulous individual placings too with the highlight being an individual win for Elizabeth in the 60cm Championship, Amelie coming 2nd in the 70cm Individual Championship & 4th in the 80cm Individual Championship.

Mrs Tara Oxley



AN EXCITING PROGRAMME FOR SPORT

We continue to encourage all Junior School girls to “find their fit!” as the range of activities on offer continues to grow. Football club has been popular, and we were pleased to host Football Festivals in partnership with Amesbury School for all our Year 4 and 6 pupils. Our tag rugby players were treated to a workshop with England player Leanne Riley which the girls found very inspiring. Our open gym clubs have seen girls develop a passion for performing and choreographing. We are also currently topping the Guildford Orienteering League - congratulations to the girls who have been getting out there at the weekends. During our winter sport programme 100% of pupils have represented the school three or more times. Bring on the summer season and more sports for all!

Miss Georgie Dustin





Inspiring Girls

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