

THE NUTSHELL

Celebrating recent highlights at Hazelwood

31ST JANUARY 2025

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to share that this year marks a remarkable milestone - 135 years of excellence, growth and community at Hazelwood School.

As we celebrate this special anniversary, we reflect on our rich history and the generations of students, staff and families who have contributed to our School's legacy.

Hazelwood will celebrate being 1 school community over 3 centuries with 5 themes to mark the occasion. We have an exciting programme of events to celebrate our 135th year and we look forward to seeing you at many of these over the coming months.

Best wishes,

Lindie.



1890-2025

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Date	Event	Theme
3rd March	Sport in Action	Sport
14th June	HPA Ball	Relationships
20th June	SDG Showcase	Education
4th July	Picnic Concert	The Arts Heritage
7th July	Sports Day Yr R - 2	Sport Wellbeing & Relationships
8th July	Prize Giving Sports Day Yr 3-8	Education Sport

Follow us on our social channels for regular updates on school news!



@hazelwoodoxted



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@hazelwoodschool.co.uk



@hazelwoodschoolsport

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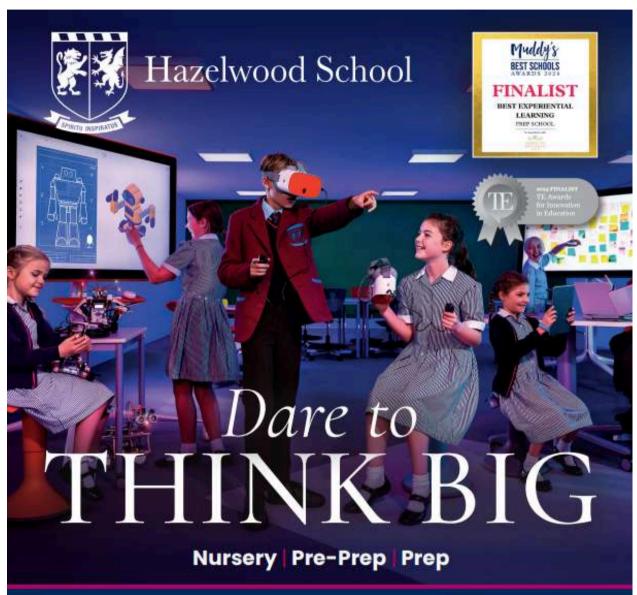
Nursery

Lower School (Reception - Year 4)

<u> Upper School (Year 5 - 8)</u>



Events



Open Morning Events:

Friday 7th February – 9.30am

Saturday 15th March - 9.30am



Discover our award-winning, innovative teaching methods and flexible learning spaces. We dare to think big and empower every child to fulfil their potential.

Private Tours available to book today. admissions@hazelwoodschool.com

Oxted, Surrey | hazelwoodschool.co.uk









Events

Independent Senior Schools' Fair

Our Senior Schools' Fair was a great success last weekend. It was wonderful to see so many families there and with over 25 independent senior schools in attendance, it was an excellent opportunity for pupils to explore the next steps in their educational journey.















Spotlight

Student

Spotligh



believe I make a difference to our pupils' lives by being kind, encouraging, and always inspiring them to push themselves to achieve their best. I strive to create an

environment where they feel supported and valued, helping them build confidence in

their abilities. I also aim to lead by example, showing the importance of kindness, perseverance, and a positive attitude. I hope the pupils see me as someone who truly

cares about their growth and success.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS YEAR?

There are so many things at school that I am really looking forward to including: the SDG presentation day, Joining the Chapel Choir and Mrs Louw on the Choir Trip to Verona, as well as taking all of Year 5 on their residential in March to Bowles (fingers crossed the weather will be kind to us!) In my personal life, I am getting married in August, so I am extremely excited for our special day, and to become Mrs Willis!

Eddie in Year 5 has been invited to join the U11
Sussex Junior Chess Squad!

SPOTLIGHT 2025

Eddie - Year 5

This follows an exceptional recent performance at the Hastings Sussex Grand Prix, where he won the U11 minors cup. He also qualified for the national LJCC Championships before Christmas, where he won 4 out of his 7 games in the U10s, a result that qualified him to play in the U12 final.

Well done Eddie!

SAVE THE DATE

13th February Gaming Webinar 7.45pm

Please save the date for the next PSHE webinar! We have Jessica Chalmers, back by popular demand, to talk to parents on all issues surrounding gaming.

Jessica will go through the latest research and explore these topics:

- Media panic surrounding tech through the ages.
- Explore the 'Get Smart about P.L.A.Y' campaign (importance of playing games with children I show you a great database for families, parental controls, look at PEGI ratings, screen time study as above, spending & in game chat pitfalls,).
- Does playing violent video games make your child violent? deep dive into research.
- Loot boxes is there a link between them and gambling?
- Benefits of gaming.

Parents will get step by step instructions for setting up parental controls on gaming consoles and games and links to some great resources.











Wrens

The past few weeks, Wrens have been exploring transport and 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. Last week, Wrens made a big boat to use, created car prints in the paint, and constructed a boat out of different shapes. This week, Wrens have enjoyed making their own bear hunt map, sensory bottles, and exploring our bear hunt tuff tray. The children also celebrated Chinese New Year by making their own lanterns.



Starlings

Stomp, stomp! Starlings have been having a fantastic two weeks exploring the world of dinosaurs. We have been making handprint dinosaurs, dinosaur masks, marble volcanos, dinosaur fork paint and lots more! We have been working on our physical development stomping like dinosaurs, threading leaves, fitting into small spaces as well as dancing to lots of music. Starlings have been practising their roars building up the confidence to be the loudest! We have also had an amazing day celebrating Chinese New Year, making friendship envelopes and trying yummy sweet and sour chicken!













Wagtails

Wagtails have had such a great time travelling to the shops and to the seaside on the big red bus. We have played the traffic light game, made a large red bus for the wall display and they have used their imaginations junk modelling their own bus. Play dough wheels, cars in paint and making their eating a toast bus with fruit wheels.



Lower Robins

This week in Lower Robins, the children have been exploring the theme of 'People Who Help Us'. They particularly enjoyed dressing up in various occupational uniforms, utilising the doctor's kit, and playing with the fire station set. We continued our phonics activities, focusing on the letter 'd' this week; next week, we will move on to the letter 't'. On Wednesday, we celebrated Chinese New Year by discussing the story of the zodiac animals. Gemma A engaged the children in making snake crafts to mark the Year of the Snake, while Gemma R facilitated a counting activity using police hats. Additionally, Milly organised a matching game where the children paired 'people who help us' with their corresponding vehicles.













Upper Robins

Last week was an exciting journey into the world of jungle animals. The children explored various jungle creatures and their habitats through fun activities. They had a great time guessing animals sounds and playing dice games to mimic jungle animals. They also sorted animals by sizes and species, counted them and tackled some engaging animal puzzles. This week we have dived into the wonderful theme of Fairy Tales! The children have been delighted by classic stories, filling in the missing words and predicting storylines by looking at the pictures. They built houses for The Three Little Pigs and enjoyed a variety of sensory play activities. On Chinese New Year's Day, the children experienced using chopsticks to eat Chinese noodles and playing with noodles on the tuff tray. We rounded off the week with one of their favourite activities - baking fairy cakes!

Skylarks Orange

Skylarks have explored the theme of construction, and the children thoroughly enjoyed playing with the large, new trucks in our classroom. We also had a great time creating tyre tracks with brightly coloured paints. Each child relished the opportunity to make their own models, sharing their ideas with one another as they built both vertically and horizontally.

We celebrated the Chinese New Year, welcoming the Year of the Snake. The children crafted their own snakes, showcasing their scissor skills and adding vibrant colours to make them look spectacular. We also shared a delicious meal of noodles, which included a special sweet and sour chicken with noodles for lunch.

In addition, the children created their very own dragon, painting it a bright orange and giving it large, expressive eyes. We went outside and performed a dragon dance, after which we watched an informative show explaining the significance of the dragon dance during Chinese New Year.

The children enjoyed forming a line and passing under the dragon's face and body, dancing together throughout the school grounds to Chinese music.









Skylarks Green

'The children on the green side of Skylarks have immersed themselves in a plethora of activities over the past fortnight. We completed our Winter topic with some 'hands-on' exploration of the ice found in the pond during Forest School and by making paper plate penguins to adorn our Winter board.

'Construction' underpinned the activities during the following week, with the building site role play area witnessing plenty of collaborative work with both large-scale and intricate resources. Adult-led activities included replicating towers made from number cubes and continuing ABAB patterns, copying Duplo structures from flash cards, number Jenga and building towers outside with a specific number of bricks and then knocking them down with the kick of a football! We learned some new vocabulary as we studied famous buildings from around the world, both ancient and modern.

This week our Chinese restaurant role play area, red envelope tuff tray, dragon 'small-world' table and dragon-head making marked the start of Chinese New Year. We made Chinese lanterns, learned about the animals that comprise the Chinese zodiac (the fact that it was the 'Year of the Snake'), listened to traditional Chinese music and manoeuvred chopsticks to try and pick up and transfer pom-poms. Later in the week we will sample noodles using chopsticks and participate in some dragon dancing. What a colourful, vivid way to enhance our understanding of the world around us!







Reception

Planet Week

We began by learning about Earth and Mars, introducing the children to the idea of researching and recording information using books, iPads, and computers. The children then split into six groups, with each group researching a different planet.

- Every day for 30 minutes, the children worked on their planet, engaging in research, role play, and creative activities to bring their planet to life.
- On Friday, each group presented their findings to the rest of the year group, teaching their peers what they had discovered and proudly sharing their artwork and creative projects.
- In class, we made space passports, labelled rocket diagrams, and created planets out of plasticine to deepen our understanding of the solar system.









MATHS

In maths, we have been:

- Making and understanding teen numbers, exploring how they are made up of 10 and some more.
- Practicing counting back from 20, developing number fluency.
- Using scales to compare weight, learning about balance and measurement.
- Exploring different ways to make and represent 6, 7, and 8, using objects and number blocks.



SPACE ART



Lunchtime Concert

A group of talented and courageous Year 1 children were thrilled to perform in their first lunchtime concert. They gave a fabulous performance of 'Revolting' from Matilda and 'A million Dreams' from The Greatest Showman!







PAINTING THE SEASONS

Year 1 has been learning about the four seasons and the weather at different times of the year. The children loved creating paintings of the seasons, thinking about the different colours in nature in each season, all whilst listening to Vivaldi's Four Seasons.













TOPIC DAY

Pupils enjoyed their Ancient Egyptian topic day last week.

Pupils transformed into explorers, pharaohs and even a bandaged mummy – their outfits were fantastic!

Their journey through this fascinating period in history sparked curiosity and awe and the children have loved learning about it.







THESEUS' NEXT ADVENTURE

Year 3 have been writing their own Greek Myths in pairs building on the story of Theseus and the Minotaur. We have planned as a class and then written our own versions of the stories.

All of our teachers are really proud of how much we have learnt this term and we're already excited to write and illustrate our own myths independently next week.

Here are a couple of excerpts from the stories...

Far away from Athens, there was an island called Monster Island. This terrifying place had scary, diamond zombies, creepy castles with cobwebs and a massive volcano in its centre. In the centre of the volcano lived a terrifying monster called Diazo. Diazo had golden skin, poisonous breath and teeth as sharp as daggers. King Minos had mind controlled Diazo as well. (Nieve M, Hank H, William J)

It was a long and dangerous journey but they got to the deadly dark island. In the centre of the island was a black hot volcano. They were taken to the fiery volcano by muscular guards. The gods gave Theseus a small beautiful blue tracking device. Princess Ariadne whispered, "The gods gave you this, only use once." (Jack H, Charlie P)

When they woke up, they found themselves on the shores of Monder Islands which was full of weird and scary creatures. "Let's go to that cave," shouted Echo over the raging wind. "We might be able to find somewhere to shelter." In the cave was dark and damp, but with lots of wood and stone to make a fire. Everything went fine until Crosshair stepped on a lava red rock and suddenly an earsplitting, shrieking ROAR!!!!! (Hugo E & Lily H)



YEAR 4 PLAY

Year 4 performed their play, James & the Giant Peach beautifully to the rest of the school and their family and friends this week.

Their hard work and enthusiasm shone through, with wonderful acting, expressive storytelling and some fantastic singing.

The audiences were captivated and we're so proud of how well they brought the story to life!

A huge thank you to Gus and Will in Year 8 who gave up their time to take part in rehearsals as members of the brilliant band!













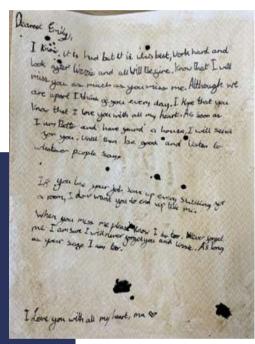


ENGLISH

Year 5 have been studying Street Child by Berlie Doherty. The novel tells the tale of Jim, a young boy who struggles to find a safe, permanent home in Victorian London.

Jim's Ma has to abandon her daughters to save them from being sent to the dreaded workhouse.

The class wrote letters imagining they were Ma explaining to her daughters why she had to leave them.



Eva L

Darling Emily,

I know this is a shock but what has been done must be done. I left you because we aren't doing well financially and we have been told that we must leave the house. Myself and Jim need to find a new place to live and a job for money. I know it must be hard not seeing me and Jim but please remember that I am also finding it very difficult.

I am very sad that this has happened and I hope you will forgive me for leaving you. I am also disappointed that we are going to be apart however I promise to write to you as much as I can. I miss you and your sister dearly and will always love you both.

Please never give up even when the skies are grey. Remember to bake each loaf with lots of care and clean the house as best as possible. Always be nice to your sister and be polite to the other workers and only speak when spoken to by your master. I know this is difficult but you must be hopeful that in the future we will meet again soon.

You are a wonderful daughter and are always kind and caring. I will miss you every single day I am gone and will miss you dearly.

Tox Emily,	19th Jan 1860
Doding Emily,	
I know this must be a hur the best choice for our for a home. Staying in the bi you with a safe envicomer	ge shock, but it was nily as we don't have g house, will provide nt, warmth and food.
It bouchs my heart to be a much better place than the me and Jim could four y hest that I can do forus.	e workhouse. I wish
I advise you to wack hard and sleep well. When you well have a f	cyful family of your
no matter what May go all times and protect you	always lose you as my dear thild.
Love form,	
Ma VX	

Yuv K

Darling Emily,

I am writing to you with a huge sadness in my heart. I want to explain why I left you in the big house with Rosie. I sent you there to avoid having to go to the workhouse with Jim and me. The thought of you in the workhouse was awful because the living conditions are terrible and I was desperate to find an alternative for as many of my children as possible.

I am miserable that we are all separated but even though we are apart, every time you miss me remember that I am always thinking about you.

Bravery is not not being scared, it is being scared and doing it anyway. So be brave my little girl. Work hard, be grateful for your warm bed and food and keep your chin up!

Lots of love from the bottom of my heart.

Ma Xx

Fyfe H

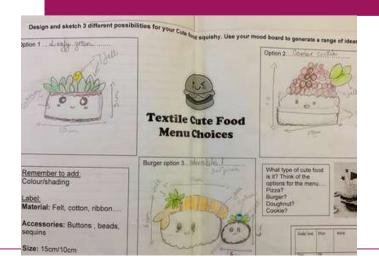




Students in Year 5 are continuing their cute food textiles project in DT and this week they are learning about different stitches and pattern cutting. They have been testing out various sewing samples (straight stitch and back stitch) and have made templates for their cute food squishy designs.

They have learnt about seam allowance and how each template must have seam to ensure the pieces can be sewn together properly. They have worked so hard to create their own bespoke templates for their individual designs. Whether it is a coffee cup, sushi, burger, avocado or macaron! I look forward to seeing all the different creative outcomes develop over the next few weeks.

Well done Year 5.











Break Time

Year 6 were enjoying the sunshine yesterday and decided to build a human pyramid!





Netball

We've had a brilliant couple of weeks on the netball courts, with our girls really stepping up their game! It's fantastic to see the drills and skills they've been practicing in lessons coming to life during actual matches. The hard work is clearly paying off, and we're excited to see their continued progress.





Nethall

Two of our senior netball teams visited Downsend School this week to play netball. One team had the opportunity to play a match with a player who is in a wheelchair. Whilst she participates fully in school sport, this was a first competitive match for her against another school - and a first for us too!

There were new rules to consider:

- Side Channel Play: The student will work in a side channel, 1-2 meters off the sideline, with access to all three-thirds of the court through the channel.
- Pass and Communication Rules: Her team-mates will shout her name before passing or rolling the ball to her, and these passes/rolls will remain unmarked by the opposition to ensure her safety.
- Game Reset Role: She will reset play with any sideline passes unmarked and without interception, minimising the chance of the ball being hit back toward her at speed.
- Scoring Adjustments: There will be a smaller net provided for her to score in should the opportunity arise. If she scores, it won't be added to the total.

Our girls rose to the challenge and enjoyed the opportunity to experience an inclusive match with a twist to the regular rules. It was delightful to witness all the players enjoying the game together, with a draw in the overall score. Downsend staff were so impressed by our girls' kindness and respect in making it a meaningful and special experience for one of their pupils.

FOOD TECH

The Food Tech Elective for Year 7 is back in full swing. Last week's bake was carrot cake muffins, with the opportunity to use a wide range of kitchen utensils to create a delicious bake. (They are also seriously improving their cleaning-up skills!) With some time left-over, we added an additional challenge: eggy bread. More glamorously known as French Toast, everyone handled hot frying pans, breaking eggs and flipping bread with aplomb, and tucked into their snack with a dusting of sugar, or even some golden syrup.

One pupil was heard to remark, "When I'm a poor student, I'm going to eat this all the time." Someone else replied, "Why wait till then? This is delicious!"





Year 7 & 8



A night at the Football

Last night 43 children from Year 7 and 8 made the journey over to north London to see Tottenham Hotspurs play the Swedish side Elfsborg in the Europa League. The spectacular new stadium was full and sitting next to the away supporters added to the atmosphere.

The first half was a little flat and finished 0-0. The second half was far better, with Spurs showing their superiority and winning the game 3-0. Although we did not arrive back at Hazelwood until midnight, it was wonderfully entertaining evening for the children and the the staff.





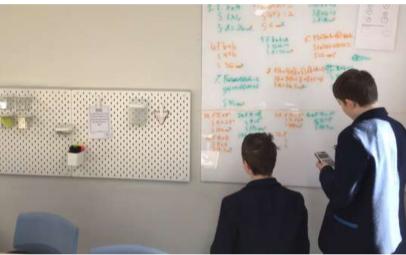


MATHS

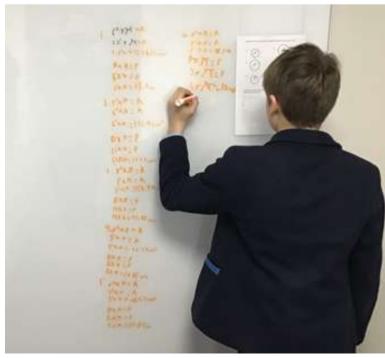
Year 8 took to the whiteboards in the Upper School Learning Centre this week for their maths lesson.

They were learning about area and perimeter of 2D shapes.











Sport

We have a new Hazelwood Sports Instagram account!



@hazelwoodschoolsport

Follow the Sports account to keep up to date with all the fixtures, after-school clubs and sporting achievements at Hazelwood.

SWIMMING

U12 Boys at Surrey Schools Individual Championships

The U12 boys put in an impressive performance at the Surrey Schools Individual Championships.

- Sam B took on the challenge of the 100m Backstroke, showing strong technique and composure in a highly competitive field.
- Campbell C delivered a solid swim in the 100m Breaststroke, facing swimmers with extensive experience at national levels.
- Ben P gave a determined effort in the 100m Freestyle, competing against some of the fastest young swimmers in the region.
- Raif V tackled the demanding 200m Individual Medley, showcasing his versatility and endurance. The competition was tough, with several Surrey records being broken and races featuring swimmers who had previously represented English Schools swimming. Despite the high standard, the boys rose to the occasion, gaining invaluable experience from competing at such a prestigious level.

This opportunity allowed them to measure themselves against some of the best young swimmers in the country and will undoubtedly serve as motivation for future training and competitions.

Meanwhile, at the Kent County Championships, our swimmers continued to shine while representing their clubs:

- Esme delivered a fantastic performance, finishing 5th in the 100m Breaststroke and reaching the finals in the 50m Breaststroke, showcasing her consistency and competitive edge.
- Ben put in an excellent effort, achieving a personal best and demonstrating great progress in the 50m Breaststroke.
- Campbell also swam at his very best, achieving a personal best time in the same event and narrowly missing out on a place in the finals.

All five swimmers performed at their peak, achieving personal bests and making the most of the

competitive environment.





Library

WINTER READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations to all those that took part in the winter reading challenges. If you are yet to collect your reward please do come and see me in the library.

Reception/Years1 & 2

Thomas S, Emilia Y, Sophie B, Georgia D, Lua E, Ernie H, Beatrix M, Milly MacD, Allegra M, Chloe P, Florence P, Melody S, Lily S, Sienna A, Theo B, India C, Rocco D, Jude DK, Finlay G, Sophie Hum, Cooper K, Max K, Abigail K, Rhys L, Sebastian P, Darcey P, Oliver P, Poppy R, Sam S.

Years 3-8

Sienna C, Rayleigh T, Jean AM, Bill D, Hugo E, Clodagh H, Sophia Hea, Jack H, Jack McS, Neive McS, Rachel M, Jessica N, Francesca P, Charlie P, Audry S, Imogen Z, Kian AB, Luke B, James E. Levi H. Immy H. Alice K. Heidi K. Bertie MacD. Barnaby M, Emily P, Scarlett P, Isabella S, Harper S, Abigail T, Florence V, Leo C, John C, Harper D, Eva L, Tom JT, Bethany K, Chloe N, Georgia T, Isabella CR, Libby C, Ella J, Sam P, Ollie P, Evie Y and Charlie JT.



Author Visit

We are delighted to welcome to Hazelwood School, Carrie Sellon. author of the children's series Pizza Pete, on Thursday 6th March for an assembly with Years 1 - 6 (please note that year 5 will be on their residential) and writing workshops for the pupils in Years 3 & 4 and finally a visit with the Reception pupils.

Carrie's two books are on sale: Pizza Pete and the Perilous Potions and Pizza Pete and the Missing Magic. A parent comms is being sent out this week should you wish to make a purchase.



AUTHOR VISIT

We are delighted to welcome to Hazelwood School the children's author Jenny Mclachlan on Tuesday 4th February for an assembly with the year groups 2 - 5. Jenny will be talking about her love of books and how she came to write books but also about the last instalment of the ROAR series.

A parent comms was sent out recently for you to complete should you wish to purchase one of her books. The last day for ordering is Wednesday 26th January.

BOOKMARK COMPETITION

Please make sure all entries are sent into the library by the 11th of February to be included in this year's competition. Thank you for those who have already submitted your entries I've had already had some amazing designs!

WORLD BOOK DAY 6TH MARCH



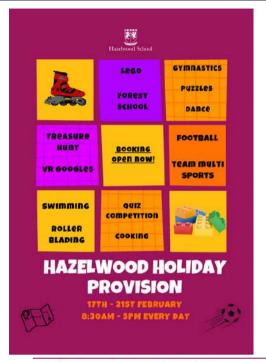
Pupils from Reception through to and including Year 6 can dress up for World Book Day in a costume relating to children's books that are age appropriate for your child (apologies but Year 5s will be on their residential that day). Please try to think about making costumes this year and supporting charity shops by buying items from them. Please do not send children in with any weapons as part of their costume.

Prizes will be awarded for the two best dressed book characters in each class from Years 1 - 6.

For those dressing up, please send your pupil in with £1 to support children who do not have books in their lives.



Notices





Monday 17th February – Wednesday 19th February

10 am - 12 pm Hazelwood Astro Pitch



Please contact Mr Jarvis for further details and to reserve a place.

Jon Jarvis UEFA C License Hazelwood U13 Boys & Girls Football Coach Lindfield Storm U11 Manager and Coach Tel: 07725 026329

jarvisj@hazelwoodschool.com











Y€ARS 4-6

TUESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY

10.00 AM - 3.00 PM

£50 per child Please email hayesd@hazelwoodschool.com to book your place



Notices





SHOE APPEAL

Please bring in old school shoe donations, including trainers & Astros.

All shoes collected will be donated to <u>Cameron's Orphanage</u> in Mkushi, Zambia.

Please bring in your donations to the School Office by the end of January.

Thank you for your support!



Cricket



Limpsfield Chart Cricket Club are starting a new junior team for under 8s (Year 3), boys and girls welcome. No cricket experience needed.

- Winter training is 2-3pm at Hazelwood
 School (Saturday 1st February eight weeks).
- Summer training (after Easter) is early on Friday evenings on the Chart.
- Matches will be on Saturday mornings.
- Prices are £60 for the winter training programme (£7.50 per session). The club offers flexible options to those experiencing financial hardship.
- The club is a fully insured ECB accredited Clubmark club. All coaches subject to DBS checks, coach education and first aid training. Email Pete at

limpsfieldchartcricketclub@gmail.com p.



YEAR 9 OPEN EVENT

Lancing College is holding an open event for Year 9 entry on Saturday 8th February and on Saturday 22nd March.

They offer a tailored opportunity to look around with a pupil guide, to hear the Head Master, key senior staff and some of our Prefects. Please book here.