From the Headmaster’s Desk

This week, we are mourning the loss of a captain. Alex Halliday led in life as he led on the cricket pitch; he was the finest example of a prep school master. As an inspirational history teacher, 1st XI cricket coach, and Tutor, Alex’s influence remains with a generation of pupils. Alex had the character, ability, and understanding that instinctively won boys’ respect. He cared about individuals. To take one example from the hundreds of messages I have received:

‘He was a superb role model for our sons. He embodied the values of Pilgrims’. He was kind, hardworking, measured, humble. I will never forget the time my husband asked Alex if there was spare linseed oil at school. We had run out at home and our son’s bat needed attention. At the end of school that day, in the Yard, Alex asked for his cricket bat. The next morning, he found it next to his locker, all oiled and ready to go. Alex had taken it home to oil it himself.’

Alex was our Senior Master. At Pilgrims’ this means Head of the Common Room, and during our formal meeting every week he would let me know which initiatives had been well received and, with gentle but clear nudges, which had not. The same diplomacy made him an outstanding pastoral presence for staff and boys. A past parent wrote:

‘Alex was a wonderful ambassador providing direction, encouragement, and support in response to the needs of each child. We know from conversations with our son that he enjoyed and gained much from Mr Halliday’s teaching, whether it be in the classroom, on the sports field, or as part of the Leavers’ Programme. Our son will take these lessons with him in life, as will all the other boys who had the honour of being taught by Mr Halliday.’

Alex made things happen. He was Head of Year 8 before becoming Senior Master, and oversaw Year 8 in their final term, including their residential trip to Normandy as well as the rest of a packed programme. Meticulous with detail, he also had the vision to plan next Easter’s cricket tour to Sri Lanka.

Many of us dream of leading out a team at Lord’s; Alex Halliday, in 1997, as Captain of the winning Eastbourne team in the National Club Cricket Knockout Trophy, did it. He was a truly outstanding cricketer: captain of the English Universities, a playing member of the MCC, and Master-in-Charge of Cricket at Radley as well as at Pilgrims’. We all envied his ability.

We will miss Alex’s friendship. He had a wonderful sense of humour, and was equal master of the witty story, the one-liner, and the amused glance across a room – for example, if someone (including me) went on too long with notices after lunch. A courteous man with impeccable manners, his hand-written notes were widely appreciated. In the PPA Quiz Music Round, Alex knew the answers that involved cool bands. Of course, he also knew the name of the Prime Minister in 1900. He knew a lot about politics and enjoyed passing on an incisive newspaper article, especially if written by a fellow historian.

Alex was a loving and committed family man, husband of Emily and wonderful father to two-year-old Georgina. Emily was the Pilgrims’ French teacher and theirs was a romance made at school, much to the delight of the Common Room. We can all picture Alex cycling home, eager to spend time with those he loved. Our thoughts and prayers remain with his family.

Throughout this week, the sentiments I have heard are similar to these: ‘Alex was one of the most brilliant, sincere, and inspirational people I have met’.

We were privileged to know him.
Positive psychology argues that we should focus on what’s right about a person, rather than what is wrong, and use this as a base to develop resilience, confidence, and character (for character please read as ‘the type of person we want to be’). So if you are a builder, a problem solver, a carer, a singer, or whatever, then that should be appreciated as a real life skill, equal to the usual, “I’m good at maths”, “I’m a fine footballer”, etc.

I like this idea because it helps us establish a path towards character – the person we want to be. So, by considering what we want to be, we are giving ourselves hope and aspiration and are not being dragged down by the things we ‘can’t’ do.

The Rudyard Kipling poem ‘IF’ has been studied by some Year 6 boys this week and I think it resonates with aiming high. It describes many qualities including: humility, patience, truthfulness, dependability, and perseverance. And, in light of this week, I feel it is a fitting tribute to a wonderful man who had many of the qualities described.

IF you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don’t deal in lies,
Or being hated, don’t give way to hating,
And yet don’t look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream - and not make dreams your master;
If you can think - and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you’ve spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build ‘em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: ‘Hold on!’

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings - nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds’ worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that’s in it,
And - which is more - you’ll be a Man, my son!
On Tuesday, Year 8 travelled all the way to Kensington for their annual visit to the Design Museum. Their appreciation of the day started as soon as they walked into the cavernous foyer of the John Pawson designed building. The morning started off with a workshop in which they analysed the properties and uses of materials, especially smart and sustainable materials. Some of the very innovative designs that captured the boys’ imagination were: edible water, paper cycling helmets, a gum drop bin made from discarded bubble gum, mushroom packaging, concrete canvas, and newspaper wood. In the afternoon, the boys visited the fascinating Designer Maker User exhibition which showcases the evolution of contemporary design from the last 100 years. They also visited and voted for their favourite submission in the ‘Beazley Design of the Year’ competition which recognises inventive design in six categories: architecture, fashion, graphics, digital, product, and transport. My personal thanks to Mr Darlow and Mr Walton for their fantastic assistance on the day. AA
Following the success of the inaugural PPA fireworks night, would the second one light up Winchester’s night sky in similar style? We hope everyone who attended on Friday would agree that it was a huge success. Hundreds of pairs of eyes would have spotted scallop shells and the letter 'W' illuminating Wolvesley like a giant disco ball, while Krispy Kreme-fuelled children waved glow-sticks. The fun and games had kicked off in the Pilgrims’ Quad with delicious sausages, a bar serving mulled wine so good that those enjoying it were asking for the recipe, apple bobbing, popcorn galore and a cunning game involving Malteasers. Thank you to Ivor and his team for 'smashing grub', 'best sausages ever' and 'those onions were awesome'. And a second huge thanks to Al Murray and his team for making sure such a huge event ran smoothly. It went with a bang! We hope it will happen again with such brilliance next year.

Amanda Fox
**Quirister Auditions for Year 5, 2019**

Howard Ionascu, the Director of Music for Winchester Chapel Choir, will be auditioning boys in current Year 4 only for places in Year 5, 2019 on Friday 16 November. If your son is in Year 4 and is interested in applying, he must first have attended an informal audition.

Please contact Ali Dugdale for more information, admissions@pilgrims-school.co.uk.

Please note, there will be auditions next term for boys in current Year 3 for places in Year 4, 2019 for both the Cathedral and College choirs. More information to follow, later this term.

---

**Chic, Cool Boys**

Many thanks for shaking the dust and moths from rarely released ties to allow your sons to look cool and chic on Thursday to make a statement of intent to look after each other. By paying £1 to change their appearance, they raised £240 for the Anti-Bullying Alliance. GH

---

**Missing Coat**

Oscar Walmsley’s coat has gone missing; he will not enjoy the colder weather without it.

Please check to see that it has not reached your home imperceptibly. Thank you. GH

---

**Cook the Season**

A last-minute space has become available for the PPA Culture Club Gee Cartwright cookery demonstration on Thursday 15 November. The event runs from 1000—1300, costs £42 and will be preceded by a walk in Stockbridge (weather permitting). You’ll learn and taste seasonal recipes, and enjoy coffee and cakes in a cosy kitchen near Stockbridge.

Email PPACultureClub@pilgrims-school.co.uk to find out more.

---

**Picture of the Week**

A poppy, mixed media by Michael Nevin in 8W. Just one of the poppies made to contribute to the school’s Remembrance Day installation.

---

**Second Hand Uniform Shop Team Member Needed**

Energetic, organised and with as keen an eye for a torn seam as a wonky spreadsheet? The PPA Second Hand Uniform Shop needs you! The team meets for around an hour every Wednesday morning, with occasional extra sessions before the beginning of each term, to sort and sell Pilgrims’ second hand clothing. The role would suit someone keen to contribute to the school community while gaining workplace skills. If you’ve had a career break this could be a great first step back into the workplace. Full training will be given.

This is a volunteer role with no financial remuneration, but does include hot drinks and biscuits. The role is open to all parents at The Pilgrims’ School.

Please apply by email or send questions to PPA@pilgrims-school.co.uk.
The Week Ahead

**Mon 12**  Cathedral Monday
Years 4 and 5 Senior Schools Evening  1900  Octagon

**Tue 13**  SCARF Workshops - PSHE

**Wed 14**  SCARF Workshops - PSHE
Soccer v Farleigh and Sherborne House  1430  Home and Away
Set Quiz Round 5  1715  Octagon
Boarders Theme Supper: Spanish Evening  1825  Dining Room

**Thurs 15**  SCARF Workshops - PSHE
Under 9 Football Tournament  1300  PGS
Choristers and Chamber Choir sing at the city Christmas tree lighting  Guildhall

**Fri 16**  Chorister Photocall On Ice  0830
Promenade Concert  1000-1150
Exeat for Pre-Prep and Day Boys  1200
Lunch  1215
Exeat for Boarders  1245

## School Service of Remembrance

The School Service of Remembrance will take place on Saturday 10 November at **1040** in Winchester College Chapel (not Winchester Cathedral as stated in the calendar).

All boys will wear white shirts and jackets.
All parents are most welcome to attend.

## Collection Times for Exeat on Friday 16 November

Day Boys are free to leave at 1200. They return by 0810 on Monday 19 November

Boarders are free to leave, after lunch, at 1245. They return, in school uniform, between 1900 and 2000 on Sunday 18 November, or on Monday morning.

Day Boys are of course welcome to stay for lunch if this would help parents – please inform the Front Office by Tuesday 13 November.

Similarly, if you are attending the concert and would wish to sign out your boarder son at 1200. Please inform the Front Office by Tuesday 13 November.

The departure time is, as ever, split to ensure that there is minimal congestion. GH

## Year 4 and 5 Parents School Information Evening

A reminder that on Monday evening (12 November), there will be a Senior Schools Information Evening for Year 4 and 5 Parents. The meeting will start at 1900 in the Octagon. There will be talks by Tom Burden, Alistair Duncan and Anne Kelly.

We look forward to seeing you then. ASD
On Sunday, the Music School Hall at Winchester College saw an important event in the Q calendar. The Quiristers gave an excellent informal instrumental concert which was anything but informal in technique and spirit.

As to wind instruments, Michael Nevin performed a wonderfully gloomy *When I am laid* on trombone which contrasted delightfully with Joss Pocock’s *Les Ballons*. On recorder, Charlie Temmink gave us a thoughtful *Prelude in D* (Charpentier). Charlie also sang an elegant duet from *Judas Maccabeus* with Henry Menard. Hamish Webster’s *Theme from Danse Macabre* on trumpet seemed to perfectly understand the Hall’s acoustics. Thomas Gordon was triumphant in his rendition of *See the Conquering Hero Comes*.

As to strings Ivo Sawbridge’s jolly *Happy* on viola was beautifully complemented by his brother Laurie with an assured performance of *Watkin’s Ale* on cello. Louis Jones’ tango *La Cumprasita* on viola transported us to *Some Like it Hot*, followed by a very polished *Sérénade sur L’Eau*. The tango contrasted nicely with the *Waltz* from *Sleeping Beauty* from Kyven Tan. The dance continued with Anton Wright’s energetic *Polonaise*.

On piano, Henry Menard brought us a most dramatic *Mazurka*. William Higgs produced an outstandingly jolly *Moody Prawn Blues*, which contrasted nicely with Oliver Maclay’s *Asian Tiger Prowl*. Arush Panwalkar’s delicate performance of *The Reef* was followed by Thomas Edmondson’s impressive *Allegretto*. Aleksiy Dyke gave a memorable performance with his gentle *Petites Litanies* on piano and a profound *Scherzo Trio* on violin.

In all, a concert expressing a grand tradition.  

Tim Wright
This week in boarding...

**Boarders’ excursion to Spinney Hollow** – On Sunday the boarders visited Spinney Hollow, which is a ten acre mixed broadleaf woodland located in Badger Forest just outside Fair Oak. We walked through the wood and had a lovely warm welcome from Kate and Geoff. Our first activity was to cut down spindly trees to make space for their outdoor theatre project which will be steam powered! Then we heated our hot chocolate over an open fire and drank it with toasted marshmallows and cream, mmmmm! Our final activity was dressing up in gillie suits and hiding in the wood on our walk back.

AA (with the help of Zain Naqui, Hamish Webster and Michael Jin).

**Coming up in boarding...**

**Christmas ready** – As we start to think about Christmas, exeat is the perfect time to get organized. Please do send your son back into school with his Christmas Jumper to be worn on Friday 7 December and some chosen Christmas decorations to help him decorate his dorm (from Saturday 1 December). Those in Year 8 can wear a black tie and dinner jacket to the Boarders’ Dinner and Cabaret on Tuesday 11 December. Further, we welcome Advent Calendars into the boarding houses. However, please do not send in chocolate ones, instead opting for a more traditional calendar version. Please do let Mrs Short know if you would like some assistance in acquiring any of the above items.

**Exeat weekend –**

**Pilgrims’ Express**

16<sup>th</sup> (1318) – 18<sup>th</sup> (1805) November

Please let Mrs Short know if you would like your son to travel on the train return to Waterloo.

**Boarders’ Raffle** – Christmas is making its way into the raffle prizes as seen by today’s vast selection of goodies. Well done to Henry Ferguson, Hamish Webster and Johnny Wyatt for their winning tickets.
Cubs—From darkness into light
On Wednesday 31 October the Cubs visited the Vedic Society Hindu Temple, the only purpose-built Hindu temple in the South of England. The boys attended a religious service followed by a private Q&A with priest Ritesh Bhatt. This quietly spoken man patiently answered such questions as, ‘If there is only one God why are there so many gods in the Hindu faith?’ The answer? They represent his many forms. The boys also learnt that one of the temple’s shrines is in the form of a lily because this flower allows water to flow away, symbolising the irrelevance of trying to hold on to material items. Priest Bhatt also explained the significance of the religious festival of Diwali. This annual celebration, also known as the Festival of light, marks the start of the Hindu New Year, which fell this week on Wednesday 7 November. On the same night the boys took torches on a round walk towards St Catherine’s Hill. Before the walk, Scout Fred Christou-Moore talked the boys through the challenges involved in the Antler Night Hike. A team of five Pilgrims’ Scouts entered this expedition competition, taking part in physical challenges and navigating a route near Cheriton, before camping overnight in freezing temperatures. Even for veterans of camping in thick snow the Antler Night Hike took some doing, and the Cubs loved hearing about wading through slurry and temporarily getting lost.

Scouts
This Sunday the Scouts and Cubs will be attending the commemoration of the Armistice of 1918 at the Cathedral. We put on our uniform and polish our shoes and stand next to members of the Cadets and Armed Forces to remember those who have fallen in service for their country. This week the boys learnt why. During the First World War the Scouts took an active part in the war effort. Scouts were called on to watch the coast, guard bridges and telegraph lines, they helped bring in the harvest, raised money for ambulances, and were messengers. Scouts organisation and skills in signalling and map reading were relied upon in many areas of life outside of the scouting patrol during those times.

The boys had great fun trying to guess the scout badges from the “Scouts War Book”. The Leatherworker badge to mend boots and horse harnesses is perhaps not one we would tackle today but the Telegraph and Signallers badge that has become the Communicator badge today is still relevant. Admittedly, in those days Scouts were aged from 14 to 18 and perhaps the Winchester 4th might not quite be ready to help defend the realm. However, a few more years of scouting skills will help prepare the boys for many of life’s challenges, large or small. Tara Bond

Thank you to Fred, and to the parent helpers on both sessions. Amanda Fox
### Junior Book of the Week

*The Magician’s Elephant*  
by Kate DiCamillo  
Peter’s greatest wish is to find his long-lost sister. Moving in a timeless world, surrounded by fantastic characters, he is given an impossible clue: follow the elephant. And yet…  

A timeless, fairy-tale style story by Kate DiCamillo, one of the best contemporary writers for children. Her individual style and beautifully formed sentences turn her books into instant classics, which taking her readers on wonderful journeys, and invariably leaving their hearts filled with warmth. LB

### Weekly Menu  
**Beginning 5 November**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main</strong></td>
<td>Chicken supreme</td>
<td>Steak and vegetable pie</td>
<td>Roast leg of pork</td>
<td>Meat balls in Italian sauce</td>
<td>Breaded chicken fillet</td>
<td>Exeat weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Veg and pots</strong></td>
<td>Rice with peas and sweetcorn</td>
<td>Carrots and new potatoes</td>
<td>Roast potatoes and roasted vegetables</td>
<td>Pasta and salad leaves</td>
<td>Chips and baked beans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pudding</strong></td>
<td>Apple strudel and cream</td>
<td>Yoghurt and shortbread</td>
<td>Fresh fruit</td>
<td>Pears and ice cream with chocolate sauce</td>
<td>Bakewell tart</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Salad is available daily from the chilled counter  
and homemade soup is available on Tuesday and Thursday*  

*A selection of homemade bakes and cakes, fresh fruit, yoghurts, and pudding are offered on a daily basis*

The Menu is subject to change according to availability
THE GREAT PILGRIMS’

BAKE OFF

MONDAY 19 NOVEMBER
(after exeat weekend)

Cakes sold to fund an RNIB Audio Book for visually impaired children*

This year’s theme is Books
Open to all pupils
Lots of categories
Lots of prizes

NO NUTS PLEASE

Deliver your creations to the Octagon by 0800
*Cake Sale starts at 1545 Pre-Prep, 1645 Main School