



## Mr Wilson's Weekly Message



Happy holidays to one and all. This has been an incredibly busy term for The Hurlingham Academy as well as a very exciting one. We've had Black History Month and The Taste of Hurlingham; over 50 House Competitions since September and, of course, our Good OFSTED visit.

I cannot quite believe the energy that both students and staff have put into making this such a brilliant school to be a part of. All that hard work was reflected in this week's first Rank Order for each year group. Students who revised well and have worked hard all year really deserve to be at the top.

Over the next fortnight, make sure you are reading everyday and completing your holiday homework. Research tells us that 'little and often' is much better for storing knowledge in your long term memory. Alongside your studies, spend time with your family and friends at this time of year. Be kind, be careful and stay safe. I wish you all a very merry Christmas.

## Hamper competition

On Thursday our hamper competition came to an end and before the results are announced I would just like to say an enormous thank you to all the students, parents, carers and members of staff who donated. All the hampers were overflowing with treats; I don't think I've ever seen so many tins of baked beans in my life. Over 1000 items were donated in total, showing just how giving our community is. I'm sure the donations will make a real difference to many families in our local area over the Christmas period. Although, giving to those less fortunate was the real drive behind the hamper competition, as always there were house points up for grabs. Given the importance of the competition, it was decided that double points would be awarded to the winning house and after three weeks of donations finishing in one almighty surge this morning, I am pleased to announce the winning house is Veritas with over 100 items more than Unitas who came second. Amazingly, after 3 weeks Caritas and Aequitas ended up with exactly the same number of items in their hampers, meaning they came joint 3rd. However once again I would just like to stress the kindness and generosity shown by all houses, and I can't wait to see if we can beat our item total next Christmas.



## House Pie Eating Competition with Ms Subhan

On Wednesday, in the spirit of Christmas and with it being the final week of term, it was only right that we host a pie-eating contest! Four students and four teachers represented their house (with sheer dedication) and scores were awarded for finishing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. The hall was decked with gazing eyes as students poured in to witness their house take on this mean feat. The student round was a piece of cake (pun intended) for Presley (10C) who got Veritas off to a smashing start – the composure with which he ate six pies is to be applauded. Second, third and fourth place went to Unitas, Caritas and Aequitas respectively. The teacher round was a hotly-contested round. Could Mr Perkins follow on from Presley's success and lead Veritas to victory? It was not to be! Dr Payne secured first place position for Aequitas, followed very closely by Mr Horley (Unitas) and Mr Powell (Caritas). This meant that final result saw Unitas take home the pie-eating 100 points. Joint second place was enjoyed by Veritas and Aequitas and for the first time in a long time, Caritas were left finishing last. We think it will need the whole of Christmas break for those who took part today to work off all those calories they consumed. Bring on the next term!



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## Getting to know you— Ms Stephenson

**Name:** Ms Stephenson

**Job:** LSA

**Favourite Book:** The Hunger Games

**Interesting fact about me:** At the age of 10, I was a part of a ballet performance called the 'Pied Piper' which was performed for the Queen at the Royal Opera House.

**1st impressions of THA:** VERY Welcoming and polite.



## Key dates for week beginning January 2nd —week 2

Description	Date	Time
Bank Holiday	Monday 1st January	All day
Staff Inset– no school for pupils	Tuesday 2nd January	All day
School starts for all pupils	Wednesday 3rd January	All day
Whole school assembly	Wednesday 3rd January	8.30—9am



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