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## From the Headmaster: Weekly Update – 18/03/22

Dear Parents

I am delighted to report that pupils have continued to excel in competitive sport. This week's highlights have included the following:

- Years 4, 5 and 6 competing against Eltham College in football;
- Year 5 saw narrow losses in a regional hockey tournament against Dulwich College and Forest School;
- Years 3-6 at Farringtons today for a cross-country meet;
- boys and girls from Years 7 and 8 representing Greenwich in the London Cross Country championships. Congratulations to Aniket (Y8) who won a medal for the Greenwich team;
- U16 girls through to the semi-finals of the Bromley Schools football competition;
- U16 mixed waterpolo team through to the London B league final;
- U15 mixed waterpolo team through to the English Schools Plate final.

And best of luck to Sam (Y9) who will be competing in the English Schools Cross Country final this weekend!

The cultural highlight of the last seven days was Choral Evensong in Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge. This was a very special occasion, hugely appreciated by all who attended. Many thanks to Mr Holmes and Mr Newberry for their meticulous planning and execution of the event. Congratulations also to our Key Stage 1 pupils for their spirited performance of *The Colour of Spring* in the Beardwood theatre yesterday and this morning. It was a pleasure to be able to welcome so many parents back into school for the production.

Years 5-8 have enjoyed a visit from Falconry UK today, participating in a birds of prey display in the Sports Hall to support their studies on 'flight' in biology.

Many thanks to all pupils and parents who have been so active in providing essential supplies for shipment to Ukraine. We are especially grateful to those parents who have co-ordinated the response (see attached note of thanks). Pupils across the school are wearing their own clothes today and donating to the Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal. Almost £2500 raised in total. Building on this theme, we have decided to offer a limited number of school places to Ukrainian child refugees who will be arriving in the UK in the near future. I have been directly in contact with Greenwich Council about this possibility and they are fully supportive.

A few of you have already contacted me to indicate that you would be willing to contribute to a dedicated Ukraine fund. I have therefore agreed with the other Trustees of the Colfe's Charitable Trust, of which I am myself a Trustee, that we will create a fund within the Trust to which

donations can be directed, thus making them eligible for tax relief. Details of how to contribute can be obtained on request from the [Bursar's Office](#). Donations will be used to cover the ancillary expenses of the new pupils - school meals, transport etc. and any surplus will be allocated to the school bursary fund. I am grateful to PAFA for offering to equip pupils with uniform from the second-hand shop.

As we approach the end of a busy term it is wonderful to witness the resumption of so many of our normal routines and activities, including external. Year 9 will spend most of next week fending for themselves in the woods of Northamptonshire and plans for Year 5 and Year 6 outdoor pursuits trips next term are already well advanced.

With best wishes to all

Richard Russell  
Headmaster