

PREPARATORY SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FROM THE HEADMASTER

Welcome Back!

We have had a very sunny start to the new term despite having a large number of pupils stranded at various points around the world. The summer term is always extremely busy and you will notice that this year the second half of the term is particularly short. We have a great deal to look forward to and hope that all our pupils and relatives enjoy a successful, industrious and enjoyable few weeks.

Good News



I am sure many of you are aware that Miss Newnham will be starting her Maternity Leave in approximately 4 weeks time.

She is determined to see her Year 6 set through their Nfer Maths examination. I know you will all join with me in wishing her all the best on this very happy occasion.

I am delighted to say that Mrs Baylis will be taking over most of Miss Newnham's teaching, including her Year 5 Maths set. She will also be taking over as 6JN's form teacher. We are very fortunate to be able to call on a teacher of her experience who is able to give so much continuity of care without affecting her current teaching commitment.

E-Safety

Following our e-safety information evening I am concerned that last term I did have to deal with issues relating to Facebook and text messaging on mobile phones. I hope parents will not think it presumptuous if I ask them to be aware of the possible consequences of allowing children unsupervised access to social networking sites of this kind. We are doing all we can at school to ensure that children understand the dangers associated with making public statements on the web, as well as being cautious about entering into communication with strangers

Year 4 & 5 Information Evening

This will take place on Wednesday 5th May and will give us the opportunity to talk to parents about arrangements for teaching in Years 5 & 6 for the academic year 2010-2011 and transfer to Senior School at 11 years of age. I am sure the evening will be of interest to parents of pupils in these year groups. If you are unable to attend but would like to know the content of the meeting, please contact Mr Gatherer through the School Office.

COMMUNITY AWARDS

This week's Community Awards were given to:

Rec'n: Luke McIntyre for a positive attitude to school

Year 1: Charles Knapper for settling in so well to his new class

Year 2: Joe Taylor for considerate behaviour

Year 3: Isabella Charlesworth for thoughtful behaviour

Year 4: Rebecca Newcombe for a more positive and considerate attitude

Year 5: Sydney Jewell for helpful and kind behaviour

Year 6: Jason Blake for helpful and polite behaviour

HEADMASTER'S COMMENDATIONS

Kate Saxby in 2AP for earning 20 House Points

Sebastian Tustain in 2AP for earning 10 House Points

Abagael Calder in 1JW for caring for the environment (adopting a polar bear for her class)

Isabel Caborn in RCT for producing a wonderful holiday diary

Tamar Shields in 4NF for producing a wonderful holiday diary

Rowan Shields in 1JW for producing a wonderful holiday diary

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND FIXTURES

Monday 26th April

National Swimming Championships at Millfield School 6.00pm

Tuesday 27th April

1st XI Cricket v Exeter Junior (A) 3.30pm

Monday 3rd May

May Day Bank Holiday – School Closed

Tuesday 4th May

Year 1 classes to visit Saltram House All Day

Wednesday 5th May

1st XI Cricket v Senior School 20/20 (A) 2.15pm
Year 4 & 5 Information Evening

FRIENDS OF THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

What wonderful Spring weather – a perfect time to do a spot of Spring-Cleaning! The highlight of our fund-raising year is in sight – the Summer Fair. We have a big space in our storeroom begging to be filled with any unwanted toys, books, DVD's or raffle prizes. Please hand in any items to Reception where they will be gratefully received!

We would like to say a Special Thank You to Julian for entertaining the Juniors so superbly at the end of last term with his disco. Not only did he have the children dancing to all the latest hits but he took to the floor himself to strut his funky stuff ... move over Travolta!! Julian puts in a lot of time for the Friends' Association and is an integral part of the Team. In addition to being our resident DJ, he is also our resident videographer – a very time consuming job. And for those of you who ordered a copy of the Infant Concert DVD you can expect delivery very soon. The Team are processing the orders at this very moment!

Date for your diary: 2pm Wednesday 12th
May – Committee Meeting

OTHER ITEMS

JAM (Jesus And Me) club

The Team from St Andrew's Church will be running a club for Years 1 & 2 as well as the club for Years 3 & 4 on a Wednesday lunchtime. For Years 1 & 2 this will take place in the School Chapel starting at 1.00pm and finishing at 1.20pm. Your child may have mentioned this as they had an opportunity to meet the St Andrew's Team after assembly on Thursday morning. If any of your children are interested in attending this club, please let Reception know so that we can notify the St Andrew's Team Leader of who should attend.

Speech & Drama

The LAMDA examination results arrived during the Easter holiday. There were 67 children from Years 1 – 6 who were entered in verse speaking, prose speaking and acting. We had a 100% pass rate and the examiners, Pauline Stevens and Jennifer Clulow awarded:

Pass with Distinction 25
Pass with Merit 34
Pass 8

Congratulations to all the children who took exams and the "newly designed" LAMDA certificates will be presented by Mr Gatherer in Assembly on Friday 30th April in the School Chapel.

Bottle Tops

We are aiming to do a bottle top collage along the fence leading down to the Junior playground. These tops need to be plastic ones only. They can be obtained from milk cartons and drink bottles. It doesn't matter what colour or size – can you please just let us have as many as possible by dropping them into the School Reception for the attention of Mr Cottrell!

Water Bottles

We are coming into the summer term and, of course, the warmer weather. Can you please supply your children with a full drink bottle at the beginning of the day. This can be refilled with water during the day if necessary.

**Welcome
Back to the
Summer Term**

