



Friday 20 September 2019

Dear Parents,

Somehow we have arrived at the beginning of week four already! It has been a very busy few weeks for the whole St. Hugh's community. I have very much enjoyed meeting many of you around school and on the sidelines; the atmosphere in school has been very positive. This was particularly in evidence during yesterday's Open Day where our visitors were unanimously impressed not only by the opportunities on offer but also by the clear pride in the school displayed by the pupils. This was particularly so with our Year 8s who acted as tour guides and who did so with confidence and spoke eloquently, without script, about their experience here.

All of the pupils in the school are making the most of every opportunity and I have been especially pleased to see the impact that the Eco Warriors have already had with the addition of the new recycling bins around school. Conversations this morning about the approach to plastic being taken by two well-known fast food chains have been animated and we ourselves are doing everything we can do to reduce our own use of plastic.

Especially pleasing has been being able to award certificates on a Friday in assembly to those who have done so well in their Associated Board Music exams as well as in LAMDA. Hearing the match reports on a weekly basis also emphasises the teamwork and camaraderie that exists amongst them all as they speak with pride about their achievements.

From The Pre-Prep Department: We have already enjoyed trips to Kirkby Moor, Thorpe Camp and Heckington Windmill, and have lots more exciting things planned this term. Please refer to the calendar and website for more information and photographs. We are looking forward to the Harvest Festival next week and rehearsals are going well for our song. We look forward to seeing you all at the church, please feel free to send your children in with items of food for the collection.

On behalf of Mrs Wallis, can I remind you to book ahead for After School Club (the children are to be collected at 5.20pm) and Breakfast Club so that we can ensure that staffing and catering are accurate.

The main purpose of this letter, however, is to bring your attention to two events from our "What's On".

The first of these is the visit from two members of staff from Repton School on **Thursday 26 September**. Our visitors are Mr Tom Naylor (Deputy Head) and Mrs Anna Parrish (Assistant Head, Pastoral). Both are hugely experienced both in secondary schools, particularly in boarding. Whilst their most immediate experience is based at Repton, they will also be able to talk in more general terms about boarding life in secondary schools. Members of our own staff will also be present to join the discussion and I am particularly looking forward to hearing more. They will speak to children in Years 6, 7 and 8 in the Forbes Hall at **4.15pm** and there will be a short presentation to parents with an opportunity to ask questions at **5pm**. Refreshments will follow.

As mentioned above, the second event is the Harvest Festival Service (for children in Year 6 and below) at **9.30am** in St. Peter's Church on **Friday 27 September**. The children will make their way to church from school with their form teachers and it would be lovely to see as many of you as can join us. There will be a retiring collection at the end of the service. We will be hosting a MacMillan Coffee Morning (all parents welcome) in the Pavilion afterwards from 10.30am and I am very grateful to Mrs Trish Cardovillis for her work in organising this. A letter was sent recently advising that £1 would be added to the end of term bill for children so that they can also play their part in supporting MacMillan – on behalf of the charity I would like to thank you in advance for your support.

Staff news: Next week we welcome two former pupils who return to St. Hugh's to support the Games Department.

Mr Dan Elkington (who left us to go to Sedbergh and has since played rugby for Scotland up to and including Under 23 level. Until recently he has played in Hong Kong) joins us this term before heading to Sandhurst for his Commissioning Course in January.

Miss Zoe Mair (who went on to Lincoln Minster from St. Hugh's) joins us to support Girls' Games before she starts her Teacher Training next Academic Year.

They have both already spotted their old photos in school and I am sure you will join me in welcoming them to our community; they will be super additions to our team and will prove excellent role models for our pupils.

Finally, have a lovely weekend and *bonne route* to Year 7 as they travel to Paris with Mme Clayton and Mr Jeffrey. I am sure they will have a wonderful time and I look forward to hearing all about it when they return next weekend.

Kind regards

Jeremy Wyld