

June 2008

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The end of this school year approaches and I write to give you news of past and present events.

Celebrating our Silver Anniversary

The 25th anniversary of this school and the official opening of the new building extension were celebrated in great style just before the half term holiday when over a hundred invited guests attended a champagne reception here at the school. Mr John Wyatt, founder and a Governor of Canbury, unveiled the plaque which commemorates the event and a most enjoyable evening was had by all.

The pupils celebrated in a different way – a wonderful day at Thorpe Park which was the unanimous choice of the School Council.

Visit to Spain

Since the half term break, our intrepid Years 9 and 10 travellers, accompanied by Senorita Porto and Senors Penagos and Wilson, have returned from a fantastic week spent in the Spanish mountains. Senorita Porto writes:

“The Spanish trip for Years 9 and 10 took off very early on Sunday, 8th June. After a lovely day in Madrid visiting the Retiro Park and Bernabeu, we headed to the Gredos Centre in the mountains of Sierra de Gredos where we stayed for the rest of the week. The freezing weather rather spoilt our water activities on Monday morning but the cooking and archery in the afternoon more than compensated. On Tuesday we travelled to Salamanca to visit that lovely city and do some urban settlement studies. The lovely food and improving weather helped us to enjoy the rest of the week, which included visiting the National Park and an orienteering walk. Sadly we left on Friday, 13th June, which fortunately, is not unlucky in Spain! (It’s Tuesday the 13th instead!!)”

Farewell Year 11

Our Year 11 leavers have now completed their GCSE examinations and have earned a well deserved rest from their studies. When we know the results, which will be published on 21st August, I will be in a position to let you know which school or college they have decided to move on to. We all wish them well in their pastures new and thank them for their many positive contributions to the life of the school over the years.

Apres End of Year Examinations

It has, as always, been a very busy term and there are many extra events planned when the internal end of year examinations have finished. Fourteen adventurous young people, led by Mr Orchard, will shortly be setting off for Flintshire, North Wales, where they will spend a long weekend at an activity centre concentrating on watersports. The final week of term has been carefully planned to provide a varied programme of events throughout the week.

PTO

Last Week of Term Activities

An expert on Chinese language and culture has been invited to give a presentation and run workshops, involving all pupils, on the Beijing Olympics; everyone will be making a trip to the O2 in Greenwich to see the Tutankhamun exhibition; the traditional inter-house ten pin bowling at the David Lloyd Centre, followed by a picnic lunch in the park and a softball competition, have been arranged for the Wednesday; all pupils will be going to Adventure Quest in Croydon, for a day's team building course; and, if we've all survived these events intact, a final assembly and prize giving take place at 11 00 am on Friday, 4th July. Parents are most welcome to attend. On this final day, pupils **must wear school uniform**. The school will open at 9 00 am for registration at 9 20 am and term ends at noon.

Staffing

We say goodbye to one member of the teaching staff at the end of this term. **Linda Major** has completed four years at Canbury having joined the staff as our Physics teacher in September 2004. We shall miss her undoubted enthusiasm for her subject, particularly her love of astronomy, about which she has spoken so knowledgeably, not only in her lessons, but also in her fascinating assemblies. We wish her all the best of good fortune and a long and happy retirement.

Mr Neil Williams will be taking Linda's place in September. He has a B.Sc. in Physics with Mathematics and Biophysics from Sussex University and a PGCE from Nottingham University. He has taught science, mainly Physics, for many years, both in the independent and State sectors and his wife teaches at nearby Rokeby. He is a keen cricketer and, among his many other interests, is a member of a choral society and a bridge club.

You will, I am sure know, that **Ms Kels Noades** (Head of Art), has already started her maternity leave and I am delighted to tell you that she gave birth to a 7lbs 6oz baby boy, Zac, during the evening of 16th June.

To cover for her absence, we welcome **Mrs Adrienne Roberts**, to run the Art department at the school. Adrienne holds a B.A (Hons) degree in Art History with Literature from the Open University and a PGCE in Art and Design from Roehampton. She has much experience of teaching in local secondary schools and her interests include ceramics, photography, theatre, literature and music.

It has certainly been a momentous year in the history of this very special school and my sincere thanks go to you for your continued support, to the staff for their tremendous hard work and magnificent efforts and, of course, to your children without whom this unique place would not thrive as it does. Everyone has earned a well-deserved rest and I wish you all a thoroughly enjoyable and relaxing Summer holiday and look forward to seeing you again at 10 00 am on Tuesday, 2nd September.

Yours sincerely,

Robin F Metters