

ST HUGH'S SCHOOL

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A J P NOTT B.A.
Headmaster

13th February 2011

Dear Parents

A very happy New Year to you all. It has been lovely to hear of all the wonderful things the children did during the holidays and it sounds like everyone enjoyed a special Christmas.

Curriculum

We are very much looking forward to another busy term. The children will be embarking on new topics in their respective Year groups; Year 3 will be entering Viking territories and learning all about the Norse invaders, whilst Year 4 will be preparing for the Olympics and visiting Ancient Greece! More information regarding the content of all subject areas may be found on the curriculum area of the school website: www.st-hughs.co.uk.

Targets

We are encouraging the children to be reflective on their achievements from last term and begin to set their own targets for the Spring Term. They may value spending a little time with you looking through their December reports discussing their areas of success and those areas for development that were identified by staff. By making the children aware of how their learning is progressing, they can begin to become more independent and responsible for the choices they make and achievements they enjoy which are important life skills.

Prep

Year 3 children will begin to bring home Prep to support their learning in school from Week 2 of this term. This will consist of a Literacy task linked to their work in RWI and a Maths task which will offer them the opportunity to practise and consolidate work that has been studied each week. The Literacy task will be sent home on a **Tuesday and should be returned to school by Friday** of each week. The Maths task will be sent home on a **Friday and should be returned on the following Monday**. Each child will be issued with two folders to store their tasks in and a Prep diary in which they will record the details of the tasks set. Your support and encouragement to establish good studying habits at home would be very much appreciated. The children should spend no longer than 20 minutes on each task (even if this means it is not completed) and enjoy a further 10 minutes of reading. The children will continue to be encouraged to read regularly for pleasure at home in addition to these tasks, research any subject areas they are particularly enjoying, as well as prepare answers to the Leviathan questions. Year 4 Prep arrangements will remain the same as last term.

Clothing

May we please remind parents that children should have adequate outdoor clothing and footwear? Although the sun should shine a little more often this term (hopefully!), it is still extremely muddy and cold outside at present. Children without coats or fleeces and wellies have limited opportunities when playing at break times and we would ask that all children have these in school for the remainder of the term.

Sport

The children will continue to enjoy opportunities to play fixtures against a range of schools over the course of the term. The number and compliment of teams moving to different schools can be confusing but up-to-date team sheets are uploaded to our school website (on a Monday for Wednesday matches and on Thursday for Saturday matches) showing team lists, match locations, times etc. Children attending away matches should be collected from Middle School on their return to school.

Reading

Our 'Extreme Reading' campaign, last term, really took off with children and staff embracing the opportunity to 'out read' each other in weird and wonderful places. This term, we will be launching 'Desert Island Books'. The children should bring in a picture of themselves with their ultimate read....the one that beats all others...the only one that they would choose to take to a desert island! They should also fill in a book review to fight for their favourite book to be included in our top ten Middle School reads at the end of term. Who will be able to justify their book choice as king or queen of reads?!

Calendar

Our calendar continues to be packed full for the forthcoming term. Below are a few dates to draw your attention to, although please do look carefully through the printed calendar for the full list and watch out for additions or amendments to the calendar on the website or via emails:

7th February 2012 – Junior 'Try Boarding' night

1st March 2012 – Year 2 join Year 3 to listen to a visiting storyteller (Pre-Prep/Middle School transition activity)

12th/13th March 2012 – Parents' Evening

16th March 2012 – Middle School Instrumental Concert

Finally, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Form Tutor or me if you have any questions, concerns or comments. We very much appreciate your on-going support and look forward to seeing you throughout the term.

Kind regards



Rachel Williams
Head of Middle School