

# ST HUGH'S SCHOOL

Carswell Manor, Faringdon, Oxfordshire, SN7 8PT

Tel: 01367 870700 Fax: 01367 870707

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A J P NOTT B.A.  
Headmaster

**To: All Parents**

21<sup>st</sup> January 2010

Dear Parents

It is good to be back in a normal routine now and no matter how much I love snow, I was very pleased when the thaw eventual came as I am sure were you. However, Wednesday (why does it always snow on Wednesdays...?) reminded us that we are not over with winter yet.

## Staff News

We are delighted to welcome onto the staff this term **Gilbert and Natasha Watson** who are the new houseparents. Gilbert is also Head of Boys' Games and Natasha will be coaching girls' games, too, in due course, after the arrival of their first child, which is due shortly. Also new to the boarding house is resident matron, **Julie Husband**, who took over the reins from Jill Stewart who retired last term. Working with the Girls' Games department this term and next is **Kirsty Stokes**, and we are also pleased to be joined by **Tabitha Woodd** and **Elizabeth Jackson** who are Gappies.

The whole school community was delighted to hear the wonderful news that **Suzy Robinson** has become engaged to Ian Macpherson and they will be married in the summer. Double congratulations also to **Liz Fleming** (formerly March) who was married in December and who has also recently discovered that she is expecting twins!

Our Bursar, **Carel Bouwens**, has announced that he will be retiring in the autumn and the recruitment process for his successor has just begun. Carel has done an excellent job in his time with us and already it looks as if we will have a very strong field for his successor. Also retiring at the end of this year is our Head of Learning Support, **Marianne Lewis**. We will all be very sad to say goodbye to her in the summer and we are now embarking on finding a suitable replacement. Stepping down from her position in Middle School is **Sally Hume** and we bid her farewell at the end of this term. She will be hard to replace and we are now searching for someone of similar calibre.

## Nursery

We are moving on with our plans to open a small 3+ nursery in September and have identified the cottage between Middle School and Pre-Prep as a suitable location. We will seek permission to extend it slightly and we hope to be in a position to offer places in early spring. We have already had many expressions of interest and if you are aware of anyone who may wish to send their children to our nursery, perhaps you would be kind enough to suggest they contact us as we are expecting places to fill quickly.

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## Upgraded Website

If you haven't already, do have a look at our website which has been upgraded and improved. There is a great deal of new content and various enhancements to the navigation which we hope you will find useful. We have also introduced a new content management system which makes it easy for us to make alterations and additions to the site. Please let us know if you would like any additional items to be included.

## Email

As you will have seen in your more detailed school calendar (which contains much more helpful information than previous versions), we have published a list of staff, together with their areas of responsibility. Every member of staff has an email address which is their surname followed by their first initial, followed by [@st-hughs.co.uk](mailto:@st-hughs.co.uk) (eg. [smithj@st-hughs.co.uk](mailto:smithj@st-hughs.co.uk)). Alternatively, under 'Contacts' in the front of the calendar, you will find other email addresses relating to staff members' titles (eg. [boarding@st-hughs.co.uk](mailto:boarding@st-hughs.co.uk)). Please use either of these addresses if you wish to make contact with staff via email. If you have any difficulties using this system, please let me know. Also, please would you kindly use school telephone numbers to contact staff not their personal mobile numbers unless you have been asked otherwise.

## Registration

As you know, we register your child every morning and afternoon. If for any reason your child arrives late for school, please would you remind them that they should register with Mrs Nobes in the front hall of the Manor House? Also, in order to keep track of early arrivals (ie. those who arrive between 8.00am and 8.15am) please would you ask your child to register with Mrs Nobes on arrival and remind them to stay in the Oak Room or Library until the morning registration? Also, if you are picking up your child early for any reason, please ensure they 'check out' with Mrs Nobes.

## And finally...Inspection of St Hugh's

We are expecting to hear shortly that we will be inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) as part of a three yearly cycle of inspection. As soon as we hear, I shall let you know and I shall explain how the process works. One thing which we will ask you to do is to fill in an online questionnaire about the school (and your children will also be asked to complete one). These questionnaires will go 'live' once we have been informed of our inspection date but since we are given only a week's notice, I don't yet know when this will be.

With kind regards