

Dear Parents

We have enjoyed hosting Year 8 parents at Parents' Evenings this week, and hope you, in turn, were able to gain some feedback on what has gone well so far, and the areas your son needs to focus on in order to keep improving. It is the first time we have used the new booking and appointments system, so feedback on that would be most appreciated, especially if it is suggestions of improvements.

I have been fortunate enough to have been involved in an amazing project between schools in three countries over the last few months, a start of a two and a half year project to look at how to improve education. The project has focussed on how schools use Time, Talent and Technology to educate their children, with the aim of finding out the best practice in education. This week I have been out in Copenhagen as part of an initial team looking at the Danish education system, and I also had the opportunity to feedback findings to the Copenhagen school leaders and the mayor in Copenhagen City Hall.

On Monday the funeral of our much loved former colleague and Deputy Head of the Prep School, Geoff Wickens, will be held in the chapel at 3.30pm, with refreshments afterwards in the Recital Hall. A number of members of staff will be attending, and music will be provided by the Chapel Choir and Prep School Senior choir. Some of the last two lessons of the day will be covered by teachers not attending. This will be a very sad moment for the community, but important to remember a man who spent 37 years of his life teaching at Bedford School.

Please see the bulletin below for highlights of the week ahead. I would particularly like draw your attention to three things (further details of which can be found below): firstly, we invite all boys to wear **oddsocks** of their choice on Monday to celebrate the beginning of anti-bullying week. Secondly, we are trialling a new method for team photos and in order to minimise disruption to the normal routine, we ask that **all** boys, even if they are not in a team, come into school in rugby kit, with school tracksuit, on Wednesday so that we are able to organise team photos with greater ease. They do not need to bring in school uniform on that day. In addition, if your son is taking part in the Autumn Concert, please see the notice below and fill in the requested form.

I hope you have a great weekend.

## **YEAR 3**

### **Y3-4 Choir Boys, Carols in the Park, Saturday 2nd December**

Our Y3 and 4 Choir boys have been invited to sing at the Kiosk in Russell Park on the morning of Saturday 2nd December. It's a wonderful opportunity for the boys to experience singing for a wider audience and there will be refreshments for the boys afterwards. Please see Mrs Gedye's letter with further information [here](#). Could all parents of Choir Boys please indicate on the [form](#) whether their son is able to come by Friday 24th November.

## **YEAR 4**

### **Y3-4 Choir Boys, Carols in the Park, Saturday 2nd December**

Our Y3 and 4 Choir boys have been invited to sing at the Kiosk in Russell Park on the morning of Saturday 2nd December. It's a wonderful opportunity for the boys to experience singing for a wider audience and there will be refreshments for the boys afterwards. Please see Mrs Gedye's letter with further information [here](#). Could all parents of Choir Boys please indicate on the [form](#) whether their son is able to come by Friday 24th November.

### **Y4-5 Saturday Sports Activities - not on tomorrow**

Due to the Remembrance Service and a number of Y4 and Y5 fixtures tomorrow, there will be no Saturday Sports club tomorrow.

## **YEAR 5**

### **Y4-5 Saturday Sports Activities - not on tomorrow**

Due to the Remembrance Service and a number of Y4 and Y5 fixtures tomorrow, there will be no Saturday Sports club tomorrow.

### **PE Notice**

Boys in Y5-8 will change activities next week. If you are starting swimming please bring swim shorts/trunks, towel and goggles (if you require them). For PE please bring full white kit with white socks and trainers.

## **YEAR 6**

### **Remembrance Assembly, Saturday 11th November**

All boys will be going to a Whole School Remembrance Assembly tomorrow in period 3. It would be nice if all the boys could wear a poppy which are available from reception if they don't already have one.

### **PE Notice**

Boys in Y5-8 will change activities next week. If you are starting swimming please bring swim shorts/trunks, towel and goggles (if you require them). For PE please bring full white kit with white socks and trainers.

## **YEAR 7**

### **Remembrance Assembly, Saturday 11th November**

All boys will be going to a Whole School Remembrance Assembly tomorrow in period 3. It would be nice if all the boys could wear a poppy which are available from reception if they don't already have one.

### **PE Notice**

Boys in Y5-8 will change activities next week. If you are starting swimming please bring swim shorts/trunks, towel and goggles (if you require them). For PE please bring full white kit with white socks and trainers.

## **YEAR 8**

### **Remembrance Assembly, Saturday 11th November**

All boys will be going to a Whole School Remembrance Assembly tomorrow in period 3. It would be nice if all the boys could wear a poppy which are available from reception if they don't already have one.

### **PE Notice**

Boys in Y5-8 will change activities next week. If you are starting swimming please bring swim shorts/trunks, towel and goggles (if you require them). For PE please bring full white kit with white socks and trainers.

### **Y8 Gothic Film Night, Thursday 30th November**

On Thursday 30th November, Year 8 are invited to a Gothic Film Night in the EMH. We will be showing Alejandro Amenábar's production of The Others starring Nicole Kidman (please

see further film details [here](#)). The film is rated 12 and has moments that may worry those of a nervous disposition. Attendance is not compulsory, but we do promise a scary evening to those who are brave enough! The evening is free and there will be an interval where pizza and drinks will be served. The event will start at 5.30pm and boys can be collected from the Burnaby Road exit at 7.30pm. Please confirm attendance via this [form](#).

**Upper School Open Morning for Current Y8 Boys and Parents,  
Saturday 18th November 2017**

The Upper School will be holding an Open Morning for all Year 8 parents and guardians on Saturday 18th November. This will provide you with an opportunity to tour the Upper School and to meet with some key members of staff.

The programme for the morning will be:

- 10.00am Arrival and refreshments in the Erskine May Hall Foyer
- 10.15am Boys join their parents after periods 1 and 2
- 10.30am Welcome by the Head Master, James Hodgson, in the EMH
- 11.00am Tours of the Upper School
- 11.45am Refreshments in the Great Hall and an opportunity to speak to key staff
- 12.30pm Event finishes

For those travelling by car, we would be grateful if you could arrive via the Burnaby Road entrance, where our Security Team will be on hand to direct you to parking. There is no need to confirm your attendance, however please don't hesitate to contact our Admissions Team on 01234 362216 if you have any questions.

**Scholarship and Bursary Awards**

**(for Current Y8 Boys as they Join the Upper School in September 2018)**

**Application Deadline Friday 1st December 2017**

A range of scholarships are available to current Bedford Prep School boys as they move into Year 9 in the Upper School. Scholarships are awarded to boys who excel academically, or show outstanding talent in Art, Drama, Music or Sport (Rugby, Hockey, Rowing, Cricket and Golf). Boys who show ability in two or more of these areas and/or demonstrate other particular strengths may be considered for an all-round award.

Up to 20 Scholars will receive up to a maximum of 10% of annual school fees from the Harpur Trust. Up to 12 of these Scholars may receive up to a further 25% of annual fees if they demonstrate exceptional talent. This additional funding, from the Brian Saville Scholarship Fund, gives a total award of up to 35% of annual school fees.

Financial support is also available to boys entering Year 9 on a means-tested basis through our Bursary Award Scheme. If you would like to receive further information about the scheme, please do not hesitate to contact the Admissions Department at [admissions@bedfordschool.org.uk](mailto:admissions@bedfordschool.org.uk) or by telephone on 01234 362216.

Please note that the closing date for Scholarship and Bursary applications is **Friday 1st December 2017**. Applications received after this date can unfortunately not be considered.

Scholarship application forms can be collected from the Prep School Reception or are available to download from the Admissions section of the school website [here](#).

## **ALL PS YEAR GROUPS**

### **Anti-Bullying Week 2017, Monday 13th – Friday 17th November**

In recognition of the start of Anti-Bullying Week and to celebrate what makes us all different and all equal, we would like **boys to wear #OddSocks** on the first day of [#AntiBullyingWeek](#) (Monday 13th November). Please note that this is not a fundraising activity, it's just for building awareness and celebrating individuality.

### **Rugby Photos, Wednesday 15th November**

All boys in Y3-8 should **come to school in their full rugby kit** (including tracksuit) on Wednesday 15th November as the boys will be having their rugby team photos in the morning. There is no need for boys to bring in uniform on that day. Details of specific timings will be given to the boys early next week and details of how to purchase team photos will come to you shortly.

### **Autumn Concert, Thursday 23rd November**

Our Prep School Autumn Concert is taking place at 7pm on Thursday 23rd November in the EMH. All parents, friends and relations are invited to attend and we hope to see many of you

there. If your son is in one of the ensembles below he will be performing in the concert. Please see [here](#) a letter from Mrs Gedye regarding the arrangements for the performers. Please note that there is a form within the letter which needs to be completed by **Friday 17th November**.

Beginner Steel Pans

Intermediate Steel Pans

Advanced Steel Pans

Y3 Choir

Junior Choir

Senior Choir

Intermediate and Senior Guitar Ensembles

Prep Chamber Orchestra

Junior Strings

Prep School Band

Jazz Band

Advanced Recorder Ensemble

Senior Brass

Prep Orchestra

### **House Drama, Friday 1st December - tickets now available**

Tickets for this term's House Drama Competition on Friday 1st December at 6.30pm in the Quarry Theatre are available now. The allocation is three tickets per family at this stage, but more will be available nearer the time. Tickets can be collected/reserved from Prep Reception and are free. This year's competition is being judged by local actor Richard Mann and the theme is: *Folktales From Around the World*; we look forward to seeing you on the 1st December!

### **Author Visit, Tuesday 21st November**

On Tuesday 21st November we will be welcoming 'The 2 Steves', otherwise known as Steve Barlow and Steve Skidmore, authors of the Action Dogs and I Hero books, to talk to all boys. They have visited us before and were extremely entertaining and the boys found them really inspiring. They will bring books with them for boys to buy and have signed if they want to. If your son would like a book please send him to school on that day with some money in a named wallet or envelope. The list prices for their books start at £5.99.

**November 2017**

This year's Movember campaign is now well underway and the school's Mo Bros, including Mr Allen, Mr Phillips and Mr Mallalieu, are busy cultivating their moustaches. Over the years the school has often been the largest Movember fundraiser in the UK in the education sector, so we would be most grateful for any donations. For more information please see [here](#).

### **Movember Quiz, Wednesday 29th November**

As part of this year's Movember fundraising, the school is holding a quiz in the EMH on Wednesday 29th November. Doors will open at 6pm with Round 1 starting at 6.30pm. There will be a finger buffet in the interval, a cash bar and a raffle. Tickets cost £10 each (£5 going to Movember and £5 covering the finger buffet). All proceeds from the bar and raffle will go to Movember. There is a limit of 15 teams so if you would like to enter a team (max of 8 people please), please email Mrs Medley on [cmedley@bedfordschool.org.uk](mailto:cmedley@bedfordschool.org.uk) as soon as possible. Entry fees will be collected on the night. If anyone would like to donate a raffle prize, it would be greatly appreciated and should be handed into the Bell Room. Thank you for your support.

### **Red Cross Christmas Fair, Saturday 25th November, 10am - 4pm in The Great Hall**

Please join us for the annual Bedford Red Cross Christmas [Fair](#), a sure way to get you into the festive spirit. The fair will be opened by the High Sheriff and there will be a range of stalls, seasonal refreshments, Father Christmas, plus you will be treated to a performance by the Prep Choir, who will be singing a selection of Christmas carols. £4 per ticket, under 10s go free.

Start Date	Start Time	End Time	Description
10/11/2017	16:30	17:30	Prep Informal Concert - Woodwind & Brass
11/11/2017	10:45	11:15	Whole School Remembrance Assembly
14/11/2017	16:20	17:30	Y7 & 8 General Knowledge Quiz with BGS
14/11/2017	16:30	17:30	Table Tennis : U13A v Biddenham School (h)
14/11/2017	16:30	17:45	U9, U10, U11 Swimming v Kimbolton & BGS (H)
15/11/2017			Prep School Rugby team photos

17/11/2017	09:00	11:55	Y7 Talented Art workshop
17/11/2017	16:30	17:30	Prep School Informal Concert - Strings
21/11/2017	09:00	10:15	Author's talk for Years 5 & 6
21/11/2017	10:30	11:55	Author's talk for Years 3 & 4
21/11/2017	13:30	14:45	Author's talk for Years 7 & 8
21/11/2017	16:30	17:45	U9, U10, U11, U12, U13 Swimming v Bedford Girls (H)
23/11/2017	14:00	15:30	Y5-6 Science Quiz Heat 1
23/11/2017	19:00	20:30	Prep School Autumn Concert
24/11/2017			Prep School Mufti Day
24/11/2017	16:30	17:30	Table Tennis : U12/13A v Goldington Academy (H)
25/11/2017			EXEAT
26/11/2017			EXEAT

For the full calendar please click [here](#)

For sports fixtures please click [here](#)

For Speech & Drama lessons next week please see [here](#)

This term's letters are also available to view in the Parents' section on the school website on the [Parents' Letters Page](#)

For details on all the concerts, exhibitions and lectures this term, please see the [What's On Page](#)



