

# MKPS SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## SUMMER TERM 2010

### News

#### **Senior Schools Results**

We congratulate all our class 11 pupils on the results of their senior school entry examinations this year, both for independent schools and grammar schools. All those who reached the required standard for grammar school, have been allocated a place.

#### **Staff**

- We congratulate Mr Canwell on his promotion to deputy head from the start of this term, to work alongside Mrs Cave.
- Mr Adriaan Smuts has transferred to the prep department at Broughton Manor this term.
- We welcome Miss Nicola Ratcliffe, NVQ2, to our nursery department this term.

#### **New Prospectuses**

Our new prospectuses arrive next week and I hope you will take the opportunity to view the copies on the entrance hall table. We are delighted with the new design from Pauley Creative.

We shall be updating our website to reflect this new design. Meanwhile, please refer to the following part of our website for up-to-date news of school events:-

#### **Parent Zone [www.mkps-interactive.co.uk](http://www.mkps-interactive.co.uk)**

Parents are invited to visit [www.mkps-interactive.co.uk](http://www.mkps-interactive.co.uk) for a useful resource of school information.

Areas of interest include a News Bulletin area featuring past and future events, information by department including trips, sports fixtures, extra curricular clubs, parent letters, weekly menus, a diary and term dates.

#### **New Preparatory Department Sports Changing Rooms**

Our new changing rooms for preparatory department pupils, by the sports hall, are now in full use and provide 2 additional big rooms for the prep children in which they can change for sport.

#### **MKPS Times**

We are going to produce our school magazine, MKPS Times, later this term. It will feature articles and work by pupils and be available electronically.

## **Parent Notices**

In the entrance hall we have 2 methods of giving you information:

1. The television screen is used to give information about forthcoming important events and also to show footage of recent educational visits which different year groups have made.
2. The blackboard is used to give reminders of dates of imminent events.

Additionally, parents of children in classes 3 to 7 should look on classroom doors for other reminders and notices.

## **Events this Term (date order)**

Listed below are dates and information about certain school events which take place this term.

The back page of the newsletter is an additional sheet listing all events, including class outings. This sheet can be detached and pinned up at home for reference.

All events are also listed in the Parent Zone of the website.

## **May 2010**

### **Open Mornings for Class 7 Parents**

If you would like a further opportunity to view the preparatory department, you are invited to visit on either of the following Open Mornings:

1. Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May                      9.15am – 10am or
2. Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May                        9.30am – 10am

### **Open Days for Prospective Families to visit MKPS**

These are occasions to view the school, nursery and Farm on the following dates:

1. Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May                      10am – 11.30am
2. Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May                        10am – 11.30am
3. Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June                      10am – 11.30am

If you have friends or colleagues who may be interested in placing their child with us, please invite them to attend at any time between 10am and 11.30am. They do not need to make a specific appointment, as they will be given an individual tour upon arrival.

### **The Farm – our Environmental Studies Centre**

If any of you who have never visited The Farm, would like to do so, please let Mrs Ort know and we will arrange an opportunity for you. Class 4 begin visiting The Farm this term for the first time.

## **Carnival Meeting**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 5.30pm**

Following our recent letter sent to you in March, we hope that as many of you as possible will come to a short meeting to plan the initial stages of our end of term Carnival on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

We would like all the different countries represented in school to be represented in the Carnival procession on the final afternoon of the school year.

## **“Sevens into Prep” Meeting**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 5.30pm**

This is an important meeting for parents and children in class 7, where the routines of the preparatory department are explained and where members of the prep department staff are introduced. The children have a tour of the specialist teaching rooms which they will be using from September and hear about some of the new and exciting things they will be doing when they visit those areas.

The meeting takes place in the studio and lasts for approximately an hour. It is not appropriate to bring younger siblings to this meeting.

## **Class 6 Plant Sale**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May from 3pm**

Class 6 will be holding a Plant Sale in the entrance hall area between 3pm and 5.30pm, in connection with their topic on Plants and Growth. The money raised will be given to our school charity, The Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths.

The children in class 6 would be very grateful for donations of plants from families throughout school. Please bring them into school from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May, labelled for identification, so that the children can price them. There are 3 main groups:

- 1) Indoor plants
- 2) Annuals
- 3) Herbaceous plants

We hope you will also come and buy from our class 6 shopkeepers on the day!

# **June 2010**

## **School Uniform Sale – Stevensons Outfitters**

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June**

Stevensons will be running a school uniform shop in the sports hall from 3pm – 5.30pm.

## **Speech Day Classes 7 to 11**

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June at 11am**

This is our formal, annual event to celebrate the successes of children in classes 7 to 11 over the past year. Attendance is compulsory for all pupils in those classes.

There is sufficient seating to allow each family 2 guest seats. Unfortunately younger siblings are not invited to attend, even if they are pupils of the school.

This year we are delighted to welcome Mr Michael Spinney, retired Head of The Beacon Preparatory School in Chesham, who will address us and present the prizes.

Winter uniform is worn by the preparatory department and summer uniform by the pre-preparatory department.

Further details will be sent to you by letter.

**Prep Department Concert and Recital Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 6pm**

Parents are invited to our performance of choir and instrumental recitals, starting at 6pm in the sports hall.

There will be drinks for parents and guests in the dining hall beforehand, from 5.30pm and we do hope you can join us.

**Pre-Prep Sports Day Classes 3 to 7 Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June**

Class 3            9.15am  
Class 4            9.45am  
Class 5            10.15am  
Classes 6 & 7 11am    (House tee shirts to be worn by children in classes 6 and 7)

The events take place on the school field (to the side of the driveway exit) and we do hope you will come and watch.

**Grandparents' Day Classes 3 - 11 Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June**

We look forward to welcoming our children's grandparents, or nominated "special person" to school to gain flavour of what we get up to during a normal school day.

Further information about the day will come to you shortly by letter.

We hope that our pre-prep grandparents will enjoy pre-prep Sports Day.

**Prep Sports Day Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 10am**

Sports Day for pupils in classes 8 to 11 starts at 10am and pupils should arrive at school from 9.30am and go to their designated House classroom.

Attendance is compulsory for prep pupils.

Parents and family/friends are invited to come and watch the events, which take place on the school field and finish at approximately mid-day.

Pupils require a House tee shirt for Sport Day.

## **Football Trip to Malta**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June**

Mr Canwell's trip leaves today and returns on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July. We wish them good luck in their tournament!

## **Mr Canwell's and Mr Bates's Consultation Evenings**      **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June**

Parents wishing to see Mr Canwell (VR in class 10C) and Mr Bates (Junior Prep) will be able to do so on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June and appointment lists will be placed outside the prep library area for you to sign. (Mr Canwell and Mr Bates will be away on the Malta football trip the following week).

## **Classes 8, 9 and 10 Parents' Consultation Evenings**      **Tues 29<sup>th</sup> & Weds 30<sup>th</sup> June**

Prep parents should sign appointment lists which will be put outside the prep library.

Your son/daughter does not accompany you to consultations and we ask you to ensure that you have made arrangements for them to be collected by 6pm if your appointments are around that time.

## **Classes 3 to 7 Parents' Consultation Evenings**      **Tues 29<sup>th</sup> & Weds 30<sup>th</sup> June**

Pre-Prep parents should sign appointment lists which will be posted on classroom doors.

Children do not accompany their parents to consultations, so please ensure that you arrange for your child to be collected by 6pm if your appointments are at, or after, that time.

# **July**

## **Carnival Day and End of term**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**

Today will be Carnival Day, to celebrate the end of the school year.

All the preparations will culminate in a Carnival procession through school, to the sports hall, in the afternoon.

We are hoping that as many parents as possible from different countries will get involved in the arrangements and presentation so that we get a real carnival atmosphere.

If you are at all interested in helping, or think you have something to add to the occasion, please let us know as soon as possible and come to a short planning meeting on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 5.30pm** to share your ideas.

## **Summer Holiday Playscheme classes 3 to 11**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July**

Playscheme begins on 5<sup>th</sup> July for 6 weeks. Places must be booked by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June.

# August

## School Closure Nursery Department and Playscheme Friday 13<sup>th</sup> August

The nursery department will close at the end of the day (6.30pm) on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> August and will re-open on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August.

Playscheme finishes at the end of Friday 13<sup>th</sup> August and re-starts on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August.

# September

## Meet the Teacher

Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> September at 5pm

This is an opportunity for parents to meet the staff and other parents from their children's new classes on an informal basis. 5.00pm – 5.30pm.

Children do not accompany their parents to this meeting.

## Parents' Association Meeting

Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> September at 5.30pm

All current parents are automatically members of the Parents' Association and are invited to their meetings. There is usually one meeting per term plus extra ones if an event is imminent.

The purpose of this first meeting of the school year is to report on the previous year's activities, to plan for the next year and to ask for parent volunteers to be the year group representatives.

## Senior School Meeting class 9 Parents

Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm

This important meeting is for parents whose children will be in class 9 in September, to learn about the processes for senior school entry. The meeting starts at 6pm, directly after Meet the Teacher.

Parents from class 10 are also invited to attend, if they did not do so when their child was in class 9.

## Class 4 Parents' Curriculum Meeting

Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 5pm

This meeting is for parents whose children will be in class 4 in September, starting at 5pm.

It is important for at least one parent per family to attend, to learn about the expansion of the curriculum in class 4 and in particular the introduction of our reading and maths schemes. Families who are new to the school in September in class 5 are also invited to attend.

Children do not attend this meeting.

# Reminders

## **Parent Contact Details**

It is vital that we can contact you at all times, should an emergency arise with your child. If your contact number is a mobile phone, please keep it turned on and not on voicemail. Please let us have your home and work email addresses if you have not done so.

If your numbers change, please inform us straight away.

In the rack outside the reception office there is a section containing forms for you to complete if any of your contact information changes.

## **Fees Questionnaires**

You should have received fees information and a questionnaire to enable Mrs Elcock, our bursar, to prepare your fees account for 2010 to 2011. Please ensure that you return the questionnaire to the school office immediately, in order for your account to be processed.

## **Pre-Prep Uniform Classes 4 to 7**

Children should arrive at school each day wearing their blazer and cap (boys) or straw hat (girls).

Black waterproof jackets will be required instead of blazers on Farm days.

## **Pre-Prep and Nursery Sun Hats and Sun Cream**

Children should have a sun hat in school daily. For children in uniform this is a school sun hat.

Nursery and class 3 parents please put sun cream on your child at home and also provide some named sun cream which our staff can apply later in the day.

Classes 4 – 7 parents please put some once-a-day sun cream on your child at home before school. If your child has very sensitive skin you may wish to provide us with some named sun cream which the staff can apply later in the day.

## **Medicines**

Medicines should never be left in a child's bag. Parents must hand them in and sign the appropriate book in Matron's office.

Nursery parents should sign medicines into the nursery book.

## **Summer Holiday Playscheme from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July**

The final booking date is Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June and it is not possible to accept bookings after that date.

## **Private Music Tuition**

Letters have been sent out to parents in classes 5 - 10, with information about how to apply for your child to start or continue lessons in September.

Please remember to return your request by the date specified.

## Diary Dates sheet Summer Term 2010

### April

Weds 28 <sup>th</sup>	Class 11 to The National Gallery
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Tring Park dance students' performance for classes 6 to 10 and workshop for class 9
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Class 7 weekly swimming starts Informal lunchtime instrumental concert for prep pupils Ballet starts

### May

Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Saturday Football starts for 4 weeks
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bank Holiday – building closed
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Class 4 all day trip to Wild Britain in Bedford Basketball starts
Weds 5 <sup>th</sup>	Class 6 swimming taster session – first of 2 Chamber Choir to sing at a local disabled club, lunchtime
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Visiting Illustrator for classes 10 and 11
Weds 12 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for prospective families 10 – 11.30am Open Morning class 7 parents, 9.15 – 10am, to see prep dept at work
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Carnival Planning Meeting at 5.30pm – all parents invited
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Class 5 all day trip to Waddesdon Manor Informal lunchtime recital – instrumentalists
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for prospective families 10 – 11.30am Open Morning for class 7 parents 9.30am – 10am
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Classes 3W and 3L to Walton for activities morning
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Sevens into Prep meeting, 5.30pm – class 7 parents and children Class 10 to Bedford Modern School to see Bugsy Malone
Weds 19 <sup>th</sup>	Class 7 all day trip to Bucks Railway Centre, Quainton
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Class 6 Plant Sale, 3pm – 5.30pm in aid of school charity
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Motorbike visit to school for class 3
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Last Sat Football until September
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Prep Revision Week Class 6 trip to Stowe House and Landscape Gardens
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Classes 3W and 3L train ride from Bletchley to Woburn Sands
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Second and last class 6 swimming taster session
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Half Term. Building closed for one week

### June

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Prep Exam Week Stevensons uniform sale in sports hall 3pm – 5.30pm
Weds 9 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for prospective families 10 – 11.30am
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Prep After Exam Activities - afternoon
Weds 16 <sup>th</sup>	John Harris, story teller, to visit prep and pre-prep
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Speech Day photos 12.30pm in the sports hall Final booking day for summer holiday playscheme
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Speech Day - class 7 and above. 11am start

Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Prep Concert and Recital, 6pm – Chamber Choir and instrumentalists No Basketball today
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Pre-Prep Sports Day, (am) Grandparents' Day classes 3 to 11 10C Verbal Reasoning reports home.
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Junior Prep (classes 8 and 9) reports home Parent Consultations Mr Canwell (10C Verbal Reasoning) and Mr Bates (Junior Prep classes 8 and 9)
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Reports home, classes 4 to 7, class 10 and class 11 Last Class 7 swimming lesson Last Ballet lesson
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Prep Sports Day, 10am start. Arrive at school at 9.30am.
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Football trip to Malta leaves
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Last basketball sessions Parent Consultations classes 3 to 10
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Consultations as above

## July

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Malta football trip returns
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	End of term, prep and pre-prep: Carnival procession and end of term assembly
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Playscheme for 6 weeks (to Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> August)
Weds 7 <sup>th</sup>	Second hand uniform sale, 3.30pm – 5.30pm

## August

Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Playscheme closes, nursery closes – from 6.30pm
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Building shut for 2 weeks and one day
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Building re-opens for playscheme and nursery children – from 7.30am

## September

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Stevensons Uniform Sale, 8.30am – 1pm, sports hall Stevenson's sale at BMPS, 2pm – 5.30pm
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	First day of autumn term Summer or winter uniform may be worn
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>5pm</b> Meet the Teacher <b>5.30pm</b> Parents' Association Meeting <b>6pm</b> Senior School Meeting, class 9 parents + others who wish to attend Class 4 Parents' Curriculum Meeting <b>5pm</b>
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	