



# Oakhyrst Grange School

PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR BOYS & GIRLS

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HEADMASTER: MR. ALEX GEAR B.Ed

30<sup>th</sup> April 2010

Dear Parents

Now that we have got back into the swing of things and our Summer Term is fully underway, I thought that I would just give you an update on a couple of issues.

The Summer Timetable, after some tweaking, now means that Years 5 and 6 have an extended Games lesson on a Monday and Years 3 and 4 have their extended Games lesson on a Tuesday. As a result of this the second Games lessons, which were on Wednesdays (Year 5 and 6) and Thursdays (Years 3 and 4) have been lost and we are able to provide more timetable provision for classroom curriculum subjects. I apologise for not giving prior notification of this, as I know that one or two of you have found it inconvenient.

The School swimming kits have been provided more recently by Pro Sports, Caterham on the Hill. I have to advise you that this shop has closed, however, the company are still able to provide our swimming kit from their shop in Battersea.

Capsticks Sports (our provider) will attend the school sale on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June along with R J Bryants for those parents who wish to purchase kit at that time. Parents can also order stock by telephoning 0207 228 7814 and then the kit will be posted allowing for delivery costs.

At the end of this Summer Term 2010, Mrs Wilson has decided to make a career change. After considerable consultation, Mrs Wilson has decided to remain as a full time member of the staff at Oakhyrst Grange School. She will focus her attention on leading the Art Department and will have a full responsibility for teaching the subject to the main school. Mrs Wilson will also take a significant role in working alongside Mrs Kemp in creating and delivering the curriculum support teaching that we have called 'Extra'. I am delighted that Mrs Wilson will be able to remain with us as an integral member of staff. I know that there will be a lot of pupils and parents who would wish to thank her for the exceptional service she has provided as a Year 3 Class Teacher in her time with us to date. I have found her to be a brilliant Teacher and a huge asset to the school. Thank you Jenny.

The Year 3 Class is being handed over to Mrs Emma Stapleton, from September 2010, who I appointed recently. Mrs Stapleton, will be working with us on four mornings a week and will deliver all of the curriculum subjects that would have been taught by Mrs Wilson as Class Teacher. As it happens Mrs Stapleton will actually have more direct contact as Class Teacher with Year 3 than Mrs Wilson would have done had she remained in her previous role. Mrs Stapleton is a fully qualified and very experienced Teacher, who will bring considerable talent to the Teaching Staff. I am delighted to welcome her to the Team. Mrs Byers, a Cello Teacher, is joining us as a new member of the Peripatetic Music Team, with immediate effect. I am sure that your children have already told you about their introduction to Mrs Byers and her cellos. Finally, I am delighted to inform you that Mrs Michelle Evans, will be our lead Swimming Coach from the beginning of this

*Mighty oaks from little acorns grow*

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term and throughout the period September 2010 to August 2011, at which point I will review the appointment. Mrs Evans is very enthusiastic about taking the opportunity to run her own ship for the year, before we plan for the longer term. Mrs Evans will be assisted, as will Mrs Sibley, on the general Games front, by Miss Kay Wilson, who I have just appointed as a GAP Student for next school year. Miss Wilson is a fully qualified swimming Coach in her own right and happens to be an England U20 Rugby International into the bargain. Miss Wilson is taking a year out to work alongside us before she will take her University place in Cardiff, where she will be studying Sports Science.

Mrs Powell is really enjoying herself this term, because she has the assistance of Miss Laura Wickes, a PGCE Student Teacher, from Kingston University who is doing her Teacher Placement with us at the moment. Laura is already making her mark on the Year 1 class and the whole school. Welcome Laura.

The Board of Governors are, as you can see, allowing me to move the school forward in any number of ways that are helping to improve and enhance the delivery of our curriculum. There are many other developments that form a part of my development planning and I will inform you of these at the appropriate time. It will interest you to know that I have been given approval for the installation of two interactive whiteboard systems to be ready for the start of term, September 2010.

I would like to thank the Parent Body for their continued and enthusiastic support of the School. Once again, I would ask you to come and talk to me or my staff, if there are any issues, concerning your child, that you would like to discuss.

With all best wishes.

Mr Alex Gear  
Headmaster