



From the Headmaster: Mr C. Hyde-Dunn, MA(Oxon), PGCE, MA(Ed.), NPQH

Letter to all parents

7 October 2011

Headmaster's Letter

Dear Parents,

I write to you at the end of another busy school week and the patter of young feet down the stairs outside my study. Over the last few days the Travelling Book Fair has been ever popular with our boys and no doubt your libraries at home have suitably expanded. From the sale of these books, we too will be able to add to the shelves in our school library and may I thank Stefan for overseeing this annual book sale.

In other activities it was good to see so many of you at the Pre-Prep parent evenings on Tuesday and Wednesday and to hear about the positive start your boys have made to the term. We are now entering into the Parent Consultation Evening season, so please do check the school calendar for when the different year group meetings will be taking place.

There was a pleasingly spirited display in this week's House Rugby competition and a number of player performances caught the eye of Staff looking ahead to their team selections for forthcoming fixtures. Moreover, I was delighted to award a winning shield to three of our Abingdon Prep boys, Harrison Wells, Daniel Collins and Freddie Smith, who were part of a victorious Oxford Harlequins rugby team at the Under 9 Grove Tournament last Saturday. I am also aware that several other Abingdon Prep boys were representing their various clubs at the tournament and all this bodes well for our strength and depth in rugby in the years ahead. More immediately we have matches this coming week against St. Hugh's, Caldicott, the Oratory and Cokethorpe. Switching sports, may we wish our Year 8 boys the very best of luck as they travel tomorrow to Elstree School for the IAPS Under 13 national soccer sixes competition.

My assembly on Monday will tell the story of Minimus the mouse and his sheaf of corn and on Tuesday the Pre-Prep will celebrate Harvest Festival in a service at Kingston Bagpuize Church. Moreover, we hope our boys in Years 7 and 8 will reap a good number of accurate answers at the annual Magdalen College School Quiz Challenge. We are currently holders of the Under 11 competition and have high hopes for the older age range too.

Josca's House, Kingston Road, Frilford, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX13 5NX

Tel: 01865 391570 Fax: 01865 391042 hm@abingdonprep.org.uk

www.abingdon.org.uk/prep

On Saturday 15th October I look forward to seeing a great many of you at our Open Morning event. Can I please ask that all the boys arrive in their school uniform from 09.00 in time for registration and their first activity lesson which starts at 09.20. Boys will be free to be collected at 10.30. Parent parking is requested to take place on the school field beside the bridge. You are welcome to enter into the field from the A415 road, but please leave the field by driving down to the school pavilion and joining the A338. There will be parking attendants to offer guidance. Naturally you are most welcome to join us for the morning and stay for my address which will take place in the school hall at around 10.45. We are extremely keen to show our school in action. I am reliably informed that there will be a dramatic re-enactment of the Battle of Hastings on the school mound-pity King Harold and as always it is your boys who are our finest ambassadors. I am trying to sign up Year 5's "Shadow Theatre" for a guest appearance after a magnificent premier performance in Thursday's school assembly, but I'm told they are currently touring, so that may have to wait...

Finally may I draw your attention to the remarkable energy of three of our mothers, Wendy Meill-Ingram, Sasha Harvey and Nikki Poole who will all be running in the New York marathon on Sunday 6th November. They will be raising money for the BBC Children in Need campaign, which is a charity we are supporting at school this year. If you would like to make a donation for this important cause please do so by going to the following [Just Giving page](#).

May I wish our three pacesetters every success as they prepare to peak for the race in the Big Apple and that you all enjoy a happy weekend.

With kind regards,

Crispin Hyde-Dunn