



From: Dr Chris Burnand : Master of Scholars

11 September 2015

To parents

Scholars' Events

I hope the scholars are all settling down to the new academic year after an enjoyable holiday, and in many case some extremely impressive exam results. As ever, I am writing to alert you to the scholars' events, which Mr Hallinan and I do expect them all to attend in the forthcoming term. We would be very grateful if you could put these dates in your diaries so that they can be kept free by the boys.

You, as parents, are also very welcome at these talks, and they are all in the Amey Theatre this term, so there should be plenty of room for anyone who wants to come along.

On Thursday 1 October at 5.30pm Timothy Walker (OA) will be speaking in the Amey Theatre on 'What has Charles Darwin ever done for us?'. Timothy is a Lecturer in Plant Sciences at Somerville College, Oxford, and for many years worked in a variety of roles in the Oxford Botanic Garden, and 2002-2014 as Director. He is also a fantastic speaker, and this will be a very appropriate topic for the scholars to be thinking about as the Science Centre nears its official opening.

The second event of the term will take place on Friday 9 October, beginning at 6.00pm in the Amey Theatre. This will be the occasion of a range of presentations by our own boys – middle school and sixth-form – which will be followed by the annual dinner to which middle school scholars and their parents are invited. Mr Hallinan will be writing separately to all the parents of middle school scholars with further, more detailed information about this event, a letter which will also contain further details of the programme in place for middle school scholars.

The final event of the term will be on Monday 9 November, when we are delighted to be welcoming Tony Edwards (OA) who will be speaking on the subject of 'R.J.Mitchell, the Spitfire and the Battle of Britain.' Tony is a past president of the Royal Aeronautical Society and an expert on the fascinating life of the designer of the iconic plane of the Battle of Britain, but a man who also designed a huge assortment of other planes in his brief life, and who had indeed died even before the war had begun.

As ever, we would also urge the boys to go to as many as they can of the departmental events advertised in the calendar. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any questions or suggestions for future speakers: we have some ideas in the pipeline, but as ever further possibilities are always extremely welcome.

Yours sincerely

Chris Burnand
chris.burnand@abingdon.org.uk

James Hallinan
james.hallinan@abingdon.org.uk

Abingdon School, Park Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 1DE

Tel: 01235 521563 Fax: 01235 849079

www.abingdon.org.uk