



St John's College



## Junior School

### Newsletter September 2009

Dear parents,

We hope that you have spent an enjoyable and relaxing summer holiday.

It is a pleasure to see the pupils return looking spick and span and for the most part full of enthusiasm. We welcome into the Junior School our new R8. In addition, there are new pupils in every class. We know that they will be made welcome.

We look forward to seeing you during the term.

Mrs. C. Loveland

#### Meet the Teacher

On Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> September there is an opportunity for you to meet your child's new form teacher individually. This will take place from the end of school until 6.15. It is a chance to make introductions and let us know any information which will help us. Usually there is only time for a short meeting. However, if you need to discuss anything in greater depth, it would be better to arrange a meeting at another time.



#### Book Week

The week will be marked in school by various activities. The purpose of the Week is to raise the profile of books and reading in the school. At the end of the day on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday books will be on sale. We hope also to buy many new books for the school library from the proceeds of the week.

#### Enterprise Week

Last year for the first time, R11 were taken off timetable for a whole week and in groups formed their own companies. It was really one of the most enjoyable and instructive weeks of the whole year. The children made exciting products for sale. They had to consider what to make, the cost of the raw materials and how much to charge for the finished product. The pupils had to work very hard in order to prepare for their Trade Fair on the Friday when pupils and parents came to purchase the products. We hope that everyone will support the new R11 at their Trade Fair on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> October.

#### School Production

The Junior School production this academic year will be *The Snow Queen*. It is a musical and will take place at the beginning of

March. Nearer the time any help with costumes or props will be very much appreciated but in the meantime we would be very grateful if you would help your child to learn off-by-heart any songs or words. This is a task that will be better done bit by bit. All pupils will be taking part.

#### Advance Notice

In the summer during Road Safety Week R10 will be doing a cycling proficiency course. In order to take part, the pupils need to be able to ride and have good control of a bike. Any pupils who cannot ride will be able to have lessons by private arrangement at the Maindy Road Centre. It is advisable to have lessons early rather than later.

#### Times Book Tokens

For all *Times* and *Sunday Times* readers out there, the tokens are again available every day. We would be very grateful if you could cut them out and send them into school. We managed last year to acquire several good books for the Library with our tokens and would like to start again with renewed vigour. There will be a prize for the class and the individual that collects the most tokens.

#### Choristers' trip to King's College, Cambridge



On Sunday 12 July, Cathedral Choristers (girls and boys age 8-15) and GCSE Music pupils went on a summer trip to the historic university town of Cambridge, where they were given a warm welcome by King's College and had the privilege of hearing the world famous Choir in its last service of the academic year. The boys and girls also saw Trinity College and St John's College, and were able to explore some of Cambridge's fine shops, as well as the market square.

The boy choristers and their parents were also fortunate to be invited to a summer party in July generously hosted by

Mr & Mrs Dimond (chorister parents). Great fun was had by all, and the boys are pictured here with Mr Neville (Director of Choral Music).



### Junior Girls' Cathedral Choir Summer Concert Nazareth House, Cardiff - Wed 1 July, 2pm

As part of our commitment to wider public benefit, the Junior Girls' Cathedral Choir and R13 instrumentalists performed their annual summer concert for the residents of Nazareth House. The Girls performed outstandingly well and were enthusiastically received by a receptive audience.

**The Cathedral Choir sang a special Benediction & Mass for the Relics of St Thérèse of Lisieux with a congregation of 1500 people! - Tuesday 22 September.**



The Cathedral Choristers sang magnificently at Benediction to honour the arrival of the relics of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux. The choristers had an excellent dinner at the Hilton Hotel before returning to sing at Mass with a congregation of some 1500 people. The boys and girls are to be commended on their excellent behaviour and singing.

Last term, the boy & girl Cathedral Choristers appeared and sang in **BBC's Doctor Who** with **David Tennant, Bernard Cribbins & Claire Bloom**. The episode is likely to be David Tennant's last, and is due to be aired Christmas 2009.

We have choirs for both boys & girls, with choristers of all ages. **No previous training is required. For further information, please contact [dominicneville@cantab.net](mailto:dominicneville@cantab.net)**

The **Training Orchestra** has begun the new term with great spirit and continues to grow in numbers. The thriving Training Orchestra performs to a high standard and gives beginners the chance to play in a full orchestra, preparing them to audition for the Concert Orchestra. All pupils learning instruments are warmly encouraged to join and should contact Mrs McMahon for more details.



### Dates for the Diary

Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> September	R8 visit to National Museum
Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Meet the Teacher R8 – R11
Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> Sept. - Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct.	Book Week
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> Oct. & Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	R9 & R10 CAT Tests (a.m.)
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct. - Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	R11 Enterprise Week
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Trade Fair
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> Oct. - Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct.	Inset for Teachers
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> Oct. - Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	<i>Half Term</i>
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> November	R9 Parents' Assembly
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> November	R11 Victorian Day
Tues 1 <sup>st</sup> December	The Cathedral Choir Christmas Concert at St David's Hall, 1pm.
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> December	R8 Parents' Assembly
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Visit to the Sherman Theatre Christmas Parties <i>End of term</i>

### Sports News

This year, new 'adventurous activities' have been introduced to PE. The entire Junior & Senior Schools have greatly enjoyed and benefited from these activities, which are helping pupils to develop their team building skills, problem solving, communicating and working with others.

### Junior Sports Day 2009 Results

1st - 447 BUTE                      2nd - 394 DE LA SALLE  
3rd - 367 MOSTYN                4th - 345 ST DAVID'S

Congratulations to all pupils in Bute House, winners of 2009 Junior Sports Day (Tuesday 7 July). Photos from the day are now on the 'Sports News' page of the website. Please also see the webpage for the many sporting activities available each week.

### Please Remember:

As always we are grateful for your support. It is vital that the diaries are signed daily. The teacher may write to you by means of the diary; the homework set for that evening is written in the diary. You may wish to write a note to the teacher. Also please use the St John's bags for homework. There is no room in the classrooms for rucksacks although on PE days a small gym bag may also be used. Thank you for your continued support.

