

TO ALL PARENTS FROM THE HEADMASTER

This has been a very busy term for school. On the sporting front, there was another enjoyable tour to Port Regis School in England where again St Michael's beat Port Regis in football. On Friday 19th November members of Forms 5 and 6 travelled to Guernsey for Football and Hockey matches against Guernsey Schools. St Michael's teams have enjoyed success on a weekly basis and we look forward to this continuing next term and, of course, to our Festival of Sport in March.

Recently, parents of the Nursery and Pre-Prep Departments were treated to some most delightful Nativity performances: Pre-Prep B and C presented 'The First Christmas', Pre-Prep A's performance was entitled 'Shine Star Shine', and the Nursery gave a delightful performance of 'It's a Baby'.

We finished the term with our traditional Festival of Lessons and Carols, held in our (seasonally decorated) Sports Hall. It was good to see so many parents and relatives at the Service. Our new 'Nativity Tableau' and Paper Angel were much admired by the children, parents and staff.

Donations to Charity: This term St Michael's has raised a magnificent sum. **Readathon.** The children in Forms 1 - 6 raised £3,956 for Sargent Cancer Care for Children and The Roald Dahl Foundation. The **Christmas Sale** raised over £14,000, which will be donated to Jersey Hospice Care and BBC Children in Need. I would like to say a special thank you to all the parents who gave up their time willingly to make this year's sale an outstanding success.

At the end of the Festival of Lessons and Carols a collection was taken in aid of Nesakavangal Children's Home and associated John the Baptist Higher Secondary School, Southern India, where we raised over £700. My sincere thanks to everyone for their generosity. You may also be interested to know that we have recently donated a substantial number of old computers to the Nesakavangal Children's Home.

Health Matters: The autumn and winter terms seem to bring the dreaded tummy bug, and I would like to remind parents that children should not return to school until 48 hours have elapsed after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea. Children with other highly contagious diseases e.g. conjunctivitis, impetigo, chest infections, should not return to school before seeing their GP and having the condition treated.

'Off games': May I remind parents that requests for a child to miss his/her PE lesson should be in the form of a letter from parents please.

Driving and Parking: I should like to ask everyone driving into the school grounds to continue to take great care. The paved walkway around the front of the school known as "the yellow brick road" is the safe route for children to move around the site and parents should **avoid parking on it under any circumstance.** To ease congestion parents are reminded that space is available on the High Field opposite the exit to school. I would also request that you leave the grounds as soon as you have completed the 'pick-up'. **Please avoid stopping on the yellow hatched area in front of Jubilee Block.**

Reading: Children in Forms 3 to 6 should read a minimum of two books during the holidays. The English Department would like children in Forms 3, 4 and 5 to **write a review of one of the books to be handed in at the start of next term.** This will be a good opportunity for the children to practise their typing skills on the computer.

Parents' Evenings: Pre-Prep and Forms 1 and 2 evenings will take place on **Tuesday 22nd** and **Wednesday 23rd March 2011**.

Parents' Evenings: Forms 4 and 5 will take place on **Tuesday 29th** and **Wednesday 30th March 2010**.

Please note: Once appointments have been issued it may not be possible to offer you an alternative day or time. With this in mind if you know that you are unable to make a particular evening please let the office know as soon as possible.

Lent Term Examinations (Form 6 only): These will take place from Monday 7th to Wednesday 9th March inclusive. Please do not make medical or other appointments for your children during this period.

After-School Clubs: Netball, and Football Clubs will recommence in the second week of next term ie, Monday 10th January 2011. **Gym Club will also recommence in the second week with a new group of pupils. (More information enclosed for those concerned).**

Swimming Club does not resume until after the Lent Half- Term and new lists will be sent home next term.

Ski Helmets: These are a compulsory item of equipment for children in the ski party. If you have one at home that is no longer required and which you would be happy to donate or sell then please let Mr McAviney know. A clothing list for the February 2011 ski trip and itinerary are enclosed with this mailing.

Morning Minibus: This service will resume on **Friday 7th January 2011**. Please ensure your child is on time for the pickup. The driver has been instructed to keep to time.

School Office: The school office will close on Tuesday 21st December and will re-open on Tuesday 4th January. The **Uniform Shop** will be open, **by appointment only**, on **Tuesday 4th**, **and Wednesday 5th January 2011**, and thereafter between 8.15 am and 9.00 am, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Please telephone Paula on 07797 841829 to make an appointment.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas.

Richard de Figueiredo
Headmaster

December 2010

Severe Winter Weather Conditions

In the event of heavy snow fall you are advised to listen to Radio Jersey, Radio 103, telephone the school diary (852649), telephone the normal school number (856904 after 7.45 am), or look on the website for information. After taking the appropriate advice it may be that we will open school but for a 10 am start rather than 8.40 am. Of course, it is your decision to remain at home if you are uncomfortable about driving in snow.

Richard de Figueiredo
Headmaster