

ST MICHAEL'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL
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TO ALL PARENTS FROM THE HEADMASTER

JULY 2011

If your child is joining St Michael's, or is moving up through the school, there will be information in this mailing that I hope you will find useful. Please note that parents who have signed up to ParentMail® will receive some of this information via email. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the school office towards the end of the holidays.

This has been a very full and busy term and I would like to thank everyone for their support in the events and activities that have taken place during the term.

The various musical events this term were most entertaining, including the Nursery Summer Celebration, and Pre-Prep C, Form 1 and Form 2 Summer Concerts. The term ended with the Forms 5 and 6 production of Joseph, which was a delight to watch, being colourful and entertaining, and your children are to be congratulated on their outstanding performance. The Sports Department has also had a very busy term with Pre-Prep, Junior and Senior Sports Days, various cricket and rounders fixtures including our annual visit from Elizabeth College, Port Regis and Grace Dieu.

One of the highlights of the term for our senior pupils was their Activities Week. Form 6 enjoyed a week sailing at Rockley Watersports, France; Form 5 a week of camping at St Jacut, France; Form 4 had overnight stays in Herm and France and Form 3 enjoyed a variety of island-based activities including visits to museums, a 'Bush' Walk and a beach study.

Board of Governors: As the Chairman of Governors' Mr Nick Taylor said at Open Day, Mr Brian Vlbart is retiring from our Board of Governors'. Brian has been a highly valued member of the Governing Board over the past 13 years and we wish Brian all the very best.

Staff Changes for September: I am pleased to announce that Mr McAviney will take on the post of Deputy Headmaster. Mr Riddell will continue in the role as Senior Master in charge of discipline and pastoral care. Mr Green, who has been with us since May, will be in charge of ICT. Mrs Sharon Barnett will be covering for Mrs Hocquard (Miss Smith) whilst she is on maternity leave.

Battle of Britian: Please note that Battle of Britain Day falls on the second day of term, that is **Thursday 8th September**. School, in line with all others in the island, will be closed that day so that the children may attend the air display.

Uniform: Children may wear their **summer uniform until the October Half-Term only**, after which all children should be in winter uniform. May I remind you that during the holiday the uniform shop is open **by appointment only**. Please telephone Paula on 07797 841 829 to make an appointment. We strongly advise you to make your purchases early to allow time for ordering, if necessary.

Second-hand uniform: We are always pleased to receive second-hand uniform for our termly sale. It would be very helpful if only resalable uniform is donated and that name tapes are removed. Donations of uniform can be brought to the school office.

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Reading: The English Department would like to advise parents that all children going into **Forms 3 to 6 inclusive should read at least 2 books during the summer holidays**, and **write a review on one of these books, which should then be handed in at the beginning of the Michaelmas Term.** Children in the Pre-Prep and Junior Departments and Forms 3 and 4, have also had information about the Jersey Library 'Circus Stars' Summer Reading Challenge.

ParentMail®: Thank you to all those parents who have already completed and returned their ParentMail® Data Capture forms. **I would strongly encourage any parents who have not yet done so to return their completed forms** as soon as possible to the school office. This will enable us to send most 'circular' information via email, in the process saving paper, stamps and time. **You will continue to receive school reports, fees invoices and the Diary of Events by post.**

Contact information and Pupil Profile Forms: Please remember to advise the school office if your contact information has altered and also **Matron with any new medical information to be added to your child's profile form.**

School Hot Lunch: To date all children who have applied for a place at hot lunch have been allocated a place, unless you have been informed otherwise. Those children who are currently on hot lunches will remain so unless you have already instructed us otherwise.

End of School Day: I should like to remind parents of children in Forms 4, 5 and 6 that the **school day ends at 5.30 pm on Fridays.** The Form Period at the end of the day is a time when problems of the week are sorted out and the children organise themselves for any weekend work and the week ahead. We would appreciate your support in not arranging out of school activities or events until after 5.30 pm on this day.

Notable dates:

- **Battle of Britain Day, 8th September – School will be closed.**
- **Morning mini-bus** run will start **Friday 9th September.**
- **Mouthguard fittings** for Forms 1 to 6, 1.30 pm onwards, **Monday 12th September.**
- **Christmas Sale.** This will take place on **Friday 25th November.** Please make a note of this date in case you have a sort-out during the holidays. Contributions will be gratefully received directly after the October half-term.

Parents' Evenings will take place on the following dates for parents of children in:

Pre-Prep Department	Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th November
Forms 1 and 2:	Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd November
Forms 3 and 6	Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th December

If you know you will be unable to attend on a particular evening, please advise Claire (via the school office), who organises the schedules for these evenings, as soon as possible.

Please note that although the **school office** will not be manned for all of the summer holidays, the telephone will generally be answered in the mornings between 9 am and 12 noon. The answerphone will be switched on at all other times.

I hope you all have a very enjoyable summer holiday.

RICHARD DE FIGUEIREDO