

TO ALL PARENTS FROM THE HEADMASTER

2011 TRINITY HALF-TERM NEWSLETTER

I have pleasure in enclosing various invitations and information relevant to you. **Please check the enclosures carefully as some require immediate attention.**

Common Entrance and School Examinations: Common Entrance examinations begin immediately after half-term on **Monday 6th June**. Examinations for Forms 3, 4 and 5 will take place Tuesday 7th to Thursday 9th June (inclusive). The children have already received advice from staff and revision guidelines are contained in the student planners. I include in this mailing a guidance letter on revision techniques.

We wish all our Common Entrance candidates success in their examinations.

Chairman of Governors: I am pleased to inform you that at the recent Governors' meeting, Nicholas Taylor was elected Chairman of Governors.

Staff Changes: Many of you will be aware that Mr Chris Cook, Mrs Anne Biddulph and Mrs Ruth Smith are retiring in July. Mr Gareth Green, who is taking over Mr Cook's teaching role, joined the staff in May. Mrs Stella Falle (Form 2F) and Mrs Jean Felton (Learning Support), who are both well known in the school will be joining the full time staff in September 2011. Mrs Jan Guille-Marrett will also be joining the staff in September as a part-time Mathematics teacher in the senior school.

Information via email: As you are aware we have recently signed up with ParentMail©, a professional company, which we consider to be the best way to service several electronic means of communication to cover not only circular communications, but also notice of school closures in extreme weather conditions, the latter via text message. Thank you to all those parents who have already returned their information forms. These have now been sent to ParentMail for processing. We are anticipating beginning this new service very shortly and I would urge any parents who have not yet returned their forms to do so as soon as possible.

Cake Sale in Aid of 'Hands Around the World: At the end of the Lent Term we held a charity cake sale and a total of £550 was raised for this very worthwhile charity. Many thanks go to Mrs Ruth Smith, her team of helpers and to all those parents and staff who very kindly make cakes for this event. Your efforts as always are very much appreciated.

Parking on school grounds: I would like to remind parents to take great care entering and exiting the school grounds and particularly when parking your vehicle. Please park considerately, and for safety reasons, cars parked within the main school should be reversed into marked bays.

Uniform: Children should return to school after half-term wearing summer uniform. The shop is open each Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings between 8.15 am and 9.00 am during term time. Please note that the shop will be open during half term by **appointment only**. Please telephone Paula between 8.00 am and 12.00 pm only on 07797 841829.

Sun-hats and cream: During very sunny weather children are encouraged to wear their school sun-hats. These can be purchased from the uniform shop. Children should also wear sun cream (minimum SPF20), which should be kept in their games bag. We suggest that Pre-Prep children have sunscreen applied before coming to school.

Medical Matters: In order to minimise the spread of head lice amongst pupils I am asking for your support in detection and treatment. At St Michael's we continue to follow the advice

from the Health and Social Services Children's Health Protection Team at Le Bas Centre. Mass screening programmes are no longer carried out in schools. Not only is it time consuming and disruptive to the school timetable, screening is only effective if the inspection is carried out on wet hair and on a regular basis. The advice to parents is, check your child's hair regularly and immediately start treatment if a live louse is detected. If live head lice are detected it is very important to check and if necessary treat other members of the family. Pharmacies offer a wide choice of treatments and your usual pharmacist will advise you on the choice of insecticide. If you do not want to use chemicals there are alternative methods available and you need to choose the method that is best for you. If you would like an Information leaflet or to discuss treatment please contact Lynne Cook (Matron) at school, or the School Nurses at Les Bas Centre on 443715. Alternatively this information will shortly be available on the school website.

After school in the playground: Just a reminder that Pre-Prep children and toddlers playing on the playground after school are the responsibility of their parents. Form 1 and 2 children are not allowed to be on the playground or the grass circle after school and they know that, after being released from the steps, they must stay in their parents' cars. These rules are made for the safety of your children. **I would ask you to remember senior children are still in classes and therefore you should not delay your departure any longer than is absolutely necessary.**

School lunch: If your child is currently on school lunches this will continue next year unless you inform us. Those children currently on packed lunch will continue. However, **if you wish your child to go onto hot lunches then please complete the enclosed lunch form** and return it to the school office as soon as possible. Matron will advise if you have been successful in gaining a place for your child.

Many of you will be aware that although the lunch menu is published, Paula does introduce new items and appropriate seasonal variations whenever she can and so this may vary from time to time.

Hogroast and Haybales: As you are aware the Parents' Association have organised a 'Hogroast and Haybales' event on Saturday 16th July 2011. They have asked me to inform you that you do not need to book a whole table and they would be very happy to take names for tickets and make up tables accordingly. For more information please contact the school office.

Could you spare a few hours to help decorate the marquee on the morning of Saturday 16th July? If you can help, please contact Melanie Drummond (866767), Yvette Jones (855170), Suzi Vivian (869299) or Nicky Horsfall (629544).

Activities' Week: The week of Monday 20th – Friday 24th June will be Activities' Week for children in Forms 3 - 6. Various island-based activities have been organised for Form 3 during the week, including a visit by French penfriends. **Form 4** will have overnight stays in Herm and France and a day in Jersey, whilst **Forms 5 and 6** will be spending the week in France. Full details are included with this mailing.

The school has several events planned before the end of term and I look forward to you joining us at our sports days, information afternoons, music concerts, the Form 5 and 6 production of 'Joseph', and at Open Day when our guest speaker will be Mr Craig Considine, Headmaster of Millfield School. **Please note: Open Day begins at 2.30 pm this year.**

Over half-term the school office will only be manned from Tuesday to Thursday, 9.00 – 12.00 noon. At all other times the answer phone will be on and messages can be left.