

8th April 2008

To: All parents

Beginning of Term Newsletter : April 2008

I hope you and your son had an enjoyable holiday. I am pleased to enclose a copy of this term's Calendar.

1. Drugs talks this week

In the newsletter at the end of last term I mentioned the forthcoming visit of Mrs Elizabeth Burton-Phillips. Mrs Burton-Phillips's son killed himself after becoming addicted to heroin. At last October's HMC Conference she spoke very powerfully about the dangers of drug addiction. Mrs Burton-Phillips spends a good deal of her time giving talks in schools. On Friday this week she will give three talks to Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Formers from BGSB and BGSG. On **Thursday evening this week, 10th April**, at 7.30pm in the Boys' School Assembly Hall, Mrs Burton-Phillips will speak to parents. I warmly invite you to this meeting which will, I believe, be a very engaging and helpful occasion.

2. Non-uniform day on Thursday this week

This term's non-uniform day will be on Thursday this week, 10th April. The day will be in support of Mr Bob Forrester, an Old Boy and former Captain of the school who, to celebrate his 80th birthday later this year, is planning to climb 80 peaks in the Lake District and North Wales in 80 days. He is seeking sponsorship for his climbs and is raising money to support the work of WaterAid in Tanzania. We would like to raise a significant amount of money for Mr Forrester and suggest that, for the privilege of not having to wear school uniform for a day, each boy pays a minimum of £1.50.

3. Founders' Day: Friday 2nd May

Founders' Day is a very important occasion in our annual calendar. The arrangements for the day are as follows:

- a) Attendance at School on Friday morning is compulsory for all boys.
- b) School buses will run one hour later than usual.
- c) Registration will take place at 9.45am.
- d) Boys must wear full school uniform. For those in the First to Fifth Forms this means a white shirt, school tie, blazer, dark grey trousers, dark grey or black socks and black, polished shoes. Sixth and Seventh Formers must wear a suit (or smart jacket and trousers), white shirt, tie and polished black shoes.
- e) Boys in the First and Second Forms will attend a service in the Roger Kay Hall (in the Girls' School).
- f) Boys in the Third to Seventh Forms will attend the service in Bury Parish Church.
- g) In the case of Jewish boys, Muslim boys and others with permission not to attend a service on religious grounds, their attendance is required until they are dismissed by their Form Tutors.
- h) There is no afternoon school.
- i) School buses depart at 12.30pm.

For reasons of space, I regret that it is not possible to accommodate parents at the services. Parents and boys are, however, warmly invited to a service of Holy Communion in Bury Parish Church at 8.00am on Founders' Day. The service will last about half an hour. After the service, breakfast is available in the Girls' School Dining Hall. If you would like to join us for breakfast, please notify Mrs Taylor in the School Office by Wednesday 30th April.

4. Public Examinations and Study Leave

Study Leave begins as follows:

- a) Fifth Formers: 12.20pm on **Wednesday 14th May** (except for those who have their RS examination that afternoon). *(NB This is a change to the date given in the end of term newsletter and in the Calendar.)*
- b) Sixth Formers: 3.50pm on **Tuesday 13th May**.
- c) Seventh Formers: 3.50pm on **Friday 23rd May** (ie when we break for half-term).

Staff will, of course, be available in school as usual after these dates for boys who may wish to consult them about revision.

5. Publication of GCSE, AS and A Level examination results

Results slips will be available for boys, or their responsible representatives, to collect as follows:

- a) **A Level and AS results: From 9.30am on Thursday 14th August.** Results which have not been collected by 2.00pm will be posted.
- b) **GCSE results: From 9.30am on Thursday 21st August.** Results which have not been collected by 2.00pm will be posted.

Please note the following:

- a) Admission to the school building will not be allowed before 9.30am.
- b) Results will not be given over the telephone unless previous arrangements have been agreed (eg because a boy is away on holiday on the day results are published).

6. Parents' Association Summer Fun Day: Auction

The Parents' Association Summer Fun Day will be held on **Sunday 29th June**. Members of 2LC, Mr Ferguson's Form, will be holding an auction on the day. They have already collected a number of items for the auction – including two boxing gloves, one signed by Amir Khan and one by Ricky Hatton. They would be very grateful for further donations of items for auction – and are particularly interested in any spectacular 'Money can't buy' experiences! If you feel that you have a suitable item to contribute to the auction, please contact Mr Ferguson at the school. Thank you.

7. Other dates for this term

- a) **Monday 5th May:** Bank Holiday – School closed.
- b) **Friday 23rd May:** Half-term begins at 3.50pm.
- c) **Monday 2nd June:** Staff INSET day – School closed, except for those sitting public examinations. **Please note that the school buses will not operate on this day. Boys sitting public examinations will be required to make their own way to school.**
- d) **Tuesday 3rd June:** Summer Term resumes at 8.35am.
- e) **Monday 9th June:** Sixth Form teaching resumes.
- f) **Wednesday 11th June:** Athletics Sports for First, Second, Third and Fourth Forms. Parents are warmly invited to this event, which begins at 2.00pm.
- g) **Monday 16th June:** Sixth Form Work Experience Week begins.
- h) **Monday 23rd June:** Summer Concert at 7.30pm.
- i) **Wednesday 9th July:** Term ends at 12.30pm.

8. Enclosures

- a) Summer Term Calendar.
- b) GCSE examination timetable and note re clashes – for Fifth Formers and their parents.