

THORNGROVE NEWSLETTER

Friday 11th September 2009

It was wonderful to welcome all the children back to school after the long summer break. It's amazing how the children seem to slot effortlessly back into school life and the daily routine. The school has come alive once more and it's lovely to see so many happy faces and hear from the children about their holidays.

A special welcome to the following new children: Mia de Marco, Rory Moran, Phoebe Williams, Alexander Tubbs, Dylan Patmore, Henry Cowen, Anya Johnson, Alex Bhomer, Lucy Crompton, Barney Woolley, Samantha Exelby, Alexander Cheeseman, William Bywater, Luella Taylor, Lola Callaghan, Georgina Cowen, Thomas Phillip, Sam Talbot-Williams, Dillon Reed, Sophie Crompton, Mitchell Du Sart Murray, Rory Lynas, Campbell Du Sart Murray, Jack Thomas, Jasmine Coles, Tyler Du Sart Murray, Sean Bhomer, Alex Winch, Benjamin Cheeseman and Nathan Bhomer. I'm sure they'll settle in quickly and soon feel part of the Thorngrove family.

We also welcome three new members of staff. Miss Helen Byrne joins the Lower School and is teaching a Form 3 class. Rumour has it she's an accomplished salsa dancer! Mr Martin Britton has joined us to supplement the games department and teach Maths in the Upper School. Last, but by no means least, Mrs Clare Lynas joins us as Deputy Head. Not only does she bring bags of experience but also her son Rory who has joined 5A.

As usual the sports fixture list is full and comprehensive. It is important that every child has a chance to represent the school and I know that Mr Brown and the games staff do their best to achieve this. On Wednesday we played a new fixture against Crosfields School, Reading. There were six football teams in total (60 boys) playing at home and away. It was fantastic to see so many boys playing with great passion and enthusiasm so early in the season. Well done to all those involved. Mr Brown was keen to mention that if you would like to purchase the rather smart body warmers for your children to wear under their shirts then you need to order them from the following dedicated website: playerlayer.com/schools/thorngrove-prep-school

Please note the changes with the distribution of team sheets. The children will no longer bring a letter home if they have been selected for a team. In order to cut back on the amount of paper used, the team sheet will be put up on the games notice board in the New Hall and the Lower School corridor. A copy will also be placed on Mary McQuillen's door and on a board (to be installed next week) facing the upper car park.

Can I draw your attention to the coffee mornings and cheese and wine evening for Nursery and Forms 1-4. This is a good chance to speak with the form teachers and also meet old and new parents.

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My wife, Claire, is hosting a tea and bring and buy cakes sale on Friday 25th September in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Please feel free to pop into our house between 2.30pm and 3.45pm, before you pick up your children, if you would like to support this worthy charity.

This term we will be having an **Open Morning on Friday 16th October**. I'd be most grateful if you could mention this event to any friends who would like to come and see the school at work. Although this event is only for prospective parents, I intend to hold a similar event later in the academic year for current parents.

Thorngrove has also featured in this month's 'Tatler's Schools Guide' featuring the top 225 Prep and Public schools in the UK. It's well worth a read and I'll leave a copy on the coffee table in the school reception.

Later this month, on 29th September, there will be a form representatives' meeting. If you are interested in becoming a form representative please give your name to Mary McQuillen in the office.

Finally I will be publishing a weekly newsletter every Friday during term time. I will upload it to the school website as well as email it to all current parents individually (technology allowing). Mary will only have a few hard copies available in her office. I hope that it will provide an insight into school life as well as bring you up to date with future events.

Wishing you all a happy start to the term,

Adam King
(Headmaster)