



FONTHILL
LODGE

Fonthill Lodge Newsletter

December 2009

Dear Parents,

I am delighted and more than a little excited to be communicating with you via our new Parentmail facility. I hope you agree with me that it will really improve the communication between school and home. I do want to make the paper newsletter a thing of the past, restricting ourselves to a few copies in the main entrance to the school for reference.

Parentmail is just one of the exciting initiatives we are pursuing to make the school more efficient; I am sure many of you will have met and welcomed Ian Hacke, our new office manager, who will be concentrating on helping us improve a number of administrative systems. In addition we are very excited about the imminent launch of our new website. We will be emailing you with the launch date and we are extremely grateful to Steven Lewis who has designed it for us as well as doing sterling work in maintaining the existing site.

The end of term is fast approaching and I would like to draw a few things to your attention;

- Final assembly is on Tuesday 8th December at 9.15, we will be serving tea and coffee beforehand – all welcome.
- Christmas parties for the children and Christmas lunch are on Wednesday and I believe Santa might be popping by to see the children.
- Our carol service is at St Swithun's church on Friday 11th December at 11 am. Please come and join us for a wonderful morning of celebration. The arrangements were circulated to parents in a previous newsletter. However, a quick reminder that the children should be picked up from the church after the service.

I have some **very important amendments** to the calendar that I would like you to take particular notice of: **Our return date for the children after the Easter break has been moved to Tuesday 20th April 2010 from Monday 19th April**; this is to facilitate a day long Child Protection course for all staff. This is a statutory obligation that the school must adhere to in order to satisfy the Government's new safeguarding criteria. **Our return date for the children in September 2010 is Wednesday September 8th.**

Parents whose children attend prep will want to know that there is now a prep mobile number they can ring if they are running late and not able to arrive by 6.00pm. The number is 07564 348762.

I am also very pleased to be able to tell you that at a recent meeting of the Governors it was agreed that, with effect from January 2010, we can now offer a sibling discount to parents who have more than one child at the school. This should be reflected in your next fee statement as a 5% discount for a second child, 10% for a third child and 15% for a fourth child. Please contact me directly if you have any further questions.

Can I take this opportunity on behalf of all the staff and the Governors of Fonthill Lodge to thank you for your continued support; it is the family atmosphere of our school that makes Fonthill Lodge so special. May we wish each and every one of you a very merry Christmas and a peaceful, productive and prosperous New Year.

Kind regards,

Simon Willcocks



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