

Headmaster's Letter

If we have one purpose at our Prep School it's this: we want our pupils to feel that they are being taught, motivated, guided and supported in becoming ready for the next stage, whether that is for life in Year 9, embracing the challenges of the world or becoming ready for success in whatever path they choose. We want our pupils to understand the importance of independence. Education is not about us as teachers and parents preparing our children for one thing and one thing only. Education must be about giving our children a varied and exciting experience, learning how to work collaboratively and creatively. We must teach them the value of hard work but that must not be at the expense of everything else, or at the expense of enjoyment and a childhood. As A J Juliani said, *'Our task is not to prepare children for something. Our task is to help them learn how to prepare themselves for anything.'*

Shaping My World is all about becoming independent.
It is understanding the importance of being **GeneroUS**.
It is understanding the importance of being **AdventuroUS**.
It is understanding the importance of being **IngenioUS**.
It is understanding the importance of being **CurioUS**.

In the light of the meeting last Friday, I would like to reassure everyone that all preparation for the assessments and standardised tests in any year group, will be undertaken in our regular Maths and English lessons and with additional practice during taught prep/form periods on Verbal Reasoning and Non Verbal Reasoning to make the children familiar with the style of questions. We do not recommend additional tutoring. We have a clear programme of study that covers all aspects of the assessments. Too many children in the world are subjected to additional tutoring that creates undue and unnecessary stress for all. Tutoring often masks a problem too. We might send extra work home every now and then.

The school day is long enough. Weekends at Prep School must be about family time, being creative, taking part in external clubs, developing outside interests, enjoying childhood and recharging the batteries for the busy week ahead, as we do our best to teach, support and help your children learn how to become independent during the week at school. If you want to do anything educational at the weekend, encourage your children to read, practise their instrument, play a board game or cards, watch the news together and have a conversation. All these will focus the mind, develop skills and interests and allow them to be children. That's surely what childhood is all about?

Grandparents and Godparents

Please be aware of our special assemblies for Grandparents on Friday 22nd November and Godparents/Guardians on Friday 29th November respectively.

Week 5

Monday 30 September

Duty Form - 8B

Tuesday 01 October

Mr Hastings away on ISI Inspection (until Thursday pm)

09:30 - 16:10 Year 8 Science trip to Wakehurst
12:50 Pupil Council Meeting
18:00 - 19:00 Parent Talk: Mental Health & Mindfulness Education (NSCR)

Wednesday 02 October

07:00 - 19:00 IAPS U11 Inland Sailing (Reading)
10:45 - 12:30 Year 5 Team building
14:00 H: U12B Tournament @ Hurst (a)
14:30 H: v Ashdown House: 2nd, 5th (@ East Grinstead Sports Centre)
14:30 H: v Burgess Hill: U11B, U11D (h); U11A, U11C (@ The Triangle, Burgess Hill)
14:30 H: v The Hawthorns: U11F (h)
14:30 F: v Windlesham: 3rd, 5th, 6th, U11A, U11B, U9A, U9B, U8A, U8B (h); 2nd, 4th, U11C, U11D, U11E, U11F (a)
14:30 F: Be Trewe Festival @ Handcross Park: U13
14:30 H v Hurst U9 & U8 Festival (h)
15:00 H: v Ashdown House: 3rd, 6th (@ East Grinstead Sports Centre)
15:15 H: v Hurst: 1st, 7th (h)
16:30 No Swimming Club tonight

Thursday 03 October

Year 7 Study Skills Day
F: Lingfield College 6-A-Side: U9
IAPS U13 Inland Sailing (Reading)
Inter-prep Humanities Quiz (Under)
F: U12 County Cup v Sackville (a)
13:30 - 16:00 Food Committee Meeting
15:30 Year 7 Parents' Study Skills Seminar
17:00 Headmaster's Drinks for Year 6 Parents (SSCR)
17:30 - 18:30
19:00 - 20:30

Friday 04 October

F: ISFA U11 Regional Qualifiers (h)
09:00 Year 5 Parents' Coffee with the Headmaster
09:00 - 09:30 Years 3 & 4 Parents' Informal Meeting in the Classrooms

Saturday 05 October

09:15 Senior School Open Morning

Sports Fixtures are available on the sports website www.ardinglysport.com

THE VIEW

Parent Notices

Poor Weather Clothing

Now that the wet/cold Autumn weather is upon us can we please encourage all of the children to wear their coat, hat, gloves and scarf, as appropriate. Please remember that they have to be the Ardingly uniform and not home clothes.

Nasal Flu Vaccination for Yrs 3-6 Inclusive

The children in Yrs 3-6 will be bringing home a leaflet and Consent Form next week for the NHS Flu Vaccination programme to be given on 29th November 2019. In order to be able to order enough vaccines for our pupils please complete and return the Consent Form to your child's Form Tutor by Friday October 18th.

Cancellation of Yr 7 & 8 Author Visit.

Sadly the author visit planned for Monday 30th has had to be cancelled, because she has had a bad fall and broken her shoulder. At this stage we have no idea when we will be able to reschedule.

Ardingly Fireworks – 8th November 6pm Please see the attached Poster

Ticket prices are £5 per person. You can buy tickets from the following link <https://ardinglyfireworksnight.eventbrite.co.uk>. Tickets sell out incredibly quickly as they are for the whole College and this is a popular event.

Parent Talk – Tuesday 1st October 2019 Natalie Pennicotte-Collier, 18:00 – 19:00, NSCR

Natalie is on a mission to breakdown Stigma in Schools & Workplace. Natalie is commissioned to deliver Mental Health & Mindfulness Education to a number of Schools highlighting the importance of Sleep & Rest & Recovery for emotional wellbeing. Accredited Mindfulness Practitioner MBCT, Natalie regularly gives Keynotes on Mental Health, Modern Mindfulness, Sleep 2.0 and Consulting for Workplace Wellbeing. **Specialisms:** Sleep, mindfulness and self-care. If you would like to attend this talk, please email Jessica.eustace@ardingly.com by the end of Friday 27th September 2019.

Sibling Photographs – Take 2

The photographer will be coming to the College on 10th October to take photographs of any siblings that missed the first photo shoot, they will be held from 08.20-09.30 in the Drama Studio at the Dining Room end. Please email charlie.tomlinson@ardingly.com to add to the Sibling Photo list.

Year 6 Parents' Drinks with the Headmaster, 3rd October

Please join Mr Figgis and his Staff on Thursday 3rd October at 19:00hrs in the Senior School Common Room.

Trips

Yr 8 Trip to Wakehurst Place, Tuesday 1st October

Please see the attached letter to Yr 8 Parents from Jade Rowley-Terry (Mrs Wright) with regard to the Year 8 trip to Wakehurst Place on Tuesday.

Yr 3 Trip to Wakehurst Place, Monday 7th October

Please see the attached letter to Yr 3 Parents from Mrs Sayers and Mrs Castle with regards to the Yr 3 Trip to Wakehurst Place planned for Monday 7th October.



Plastic Bottles Required for Senior School Art Project – Remembrance Day Exhibition

The Senior School Art Department are building a large sculpture for Remembrance Day, 11th November. One of the main materials for the sculpture is plastic bottles. Our aim is to collect between 1500-2000 bottles **before Long Leave**. The bottles will be cut down and formed into poppies that will cascade from the chapel windows. All pupils and staff, are asked to contribute towards this by collecting and handing in used plastic water bottles to Matron or directly to the Senior School Art Department. Please help to honour this occasion and make this impressive public artwork happen. Thank you, Genevieve King.

Music @ Ardingly

Please see attached a poster with information on how to purchase tickets for the National Youth Jazz Orchestra Concert taking place in the Under on Tuesday 8th October at 7.30pm. Children are free of charge.

