

Hermitage Road  
St Johns  
Woking  
Surrey GU21 8TL  
Tel: 01483 476861  
Fax: 01483 476479  
Email: office@wsc.org.uk  
Website: www.wsc.org.uk  
Headteacher: David J Smith BA MA

# The Winston Churchill School

a specialist Sports College



Dear Parents/Carers

21<sup>st</sup> July 2010

As we come to the end of another eventful year I would like to bring a number of things to your attention.

### **Post Ofsted:**

During Activities Week we had our one day monitoring visit by Her Majesty's Inspector. I am delighted that she was able to confirm that we are making the expected progress with both safeguarding and teaching and learning. Since our inspection in March she was able to make a judgement on the first area based on a range of evidence but because no lessons were taking place she was not able to comment as fully as she would have liked about the progress with teaching and learning. We will, of course, be continuing to work toward the aims on our Action Plan over the next academic year. The HMI report and our Action Plans are available via links on our website.

### **Re-designation:**

We have just heard that we have been re-designated for the third time as a Specialist Sports College. A big thank you and congratulations to all concerned.

### **Artsmark Gold:**

We were delighted to hear last week that we had been awarded the Artsmark Gold award which only a small percentage of schools hold. We have had the Artsmark award for 3 years and we had to demonstrate that our curriculum had developed sufficiently, and especially in dance, to allow us to be eligible to apply for the gold level.

### **Activities Week and Work Experience:**

As usual we had a very successful week with most of Year 10s doing work experience and others on study tours to France and Germany. Some students did not manage to get themselves organised so ended up in school for the week. Year 9s, make sure this doesn't happen to you next year! The rest of the school took part in a wide range of visits and activities including watersports to Newquay, the Cote d'Opale in France and Windmill Hill PGL activities.

### **Duke of Edinburgh:**

Over 80 Year 10 students recently completed the expedition part of their bronze award. This entailed a practice expedition and an overnight camp at Bentley Copse where each group was assisted by a member of staff and the real event two weeks later where students had to be more independent finding their way from Newlands Corner to High Ashurst, again over 2 days. In April just under 90 students were presented with their Bronze Awards at a ceremony at the HG Wells suite. We had the highest number of students from all local schools.

### **Exam Results Day:**

Results day for GCSEs is Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> August. For Year 11 it is 11.00 - 1.00pm in the MFL Block. Year 10 RE and other results will be available from 12.00 – 1.00pm in the MFL Block. Any Yr 11 students who do not collect their results on that day will receive their results later in the post and the **Yr 10 results will be handed to students on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.**

### **GCSE Examinations:**

With the new GCSE syllabuses in place there is a more modular approach to written assessments for GCSEs. Instead of coursework there will be controlled assessments and these will be spread out over Years 10 & 11. We have always tried to discourage parents from taking holidays during term time as students lose teaching time but now you run the risk of your child missing an assessment and therefore reducing their chances of a good grade if you take them out of school. We create our own timetable for these assessments and we will endeavour to draw up an assessment programme but we may also have to change dates quite late on.

### **St Johns Lye – 22<sup>nd</sup> July:**

In past years on the last day of term students have congregated on the Lye and we have received complaints from local residents regarding the rubbish left behind. Please encourage your child to use the litter bins provided so that we don't have the repeat of the same problem.

### **Last day of the Summer Term/first day of Autumn Term:**

The last day of term is Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Students break up from school after their second lesson, at 10.50am. Students return to school on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September and each year group has a staggered start and finish time:

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Start time</b>	<b>End time</b>
Year 7 students	8.25am	12.30pm
Year 8 students	8.25am	10.50am
Year 9 students	8.25am	11.50am
Year 10 students	9.45am	12.30am
Year 11 students	10.00am	2.30pm

### **Staff Leaving:**

The following members of staff will be leaving us in July. Mr Ward, Assistant Head is retiring after 36 years of service to the school. Mr Gibbons, Subject Leader for RE and Deputy Year Leader is retiring after 8 years with us and many years of service in other Surrey schools, mainly Bishop David Brown School. Mrs Sedgwick our Deputy Senco and Foundation Group teacher is leaving to spend more time with her family and two other members of learning support are leaving - Mrs Jones, to pursue academic studies and Miss Barry is returning to New Zealand with her partner, Mr Jones from the science department. Miss Merrall, Deputy Year 9 Leader and PE teacher has gained promotion and is moving to Wandsworth. This is the smallest number of staff I can ever recall leaving Winston in the summer.

### **Holiday Dates for 2010/2011:**

#### Autumn Term 2010

2<sup>nd</sup> September – 21<sup>st</sup> December \*(Students return to school 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2010)  
Half term: 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> October

#### Spring Term 2011

5<sup>th</sup> January – 8<sup>th</sup> April \*(Students return on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2011)  
Half term: 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> February  
Easter: 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> April

#### Summer Term 2011

26<sup>th</sup> April – 22<sup>nd</sup> July \*(Students break up on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2011)  
Half term: 30<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June

### **INSET Days:**

\* 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 1<sup>st</sup> October, 5<sup>th</sup> January, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 22<sup>nd</sup> July

I wish you an enjoyable, relaxing and safe summer holiday



Mr D Smith  
Headteacher

