



KING'S COLLEGE SCHOOL

14 November 2011

Dear Parents

Staff news

I am delighted to announce that Ms Michaela Darmova is expecting her first baby, due in the Spring. She and Victor are very excited and eagerly await the safe arrival of their baby, as do we all in the Pre-Prep! Ms Darmova will continue to work with us until February half-term when she will begin her maternity leave. We will be advertising for a replacement for her after Christmas, to assist Miss Jacques in 2FJ. In the meantime, we wish Ms Darmova a happy, healthy pregnancy.

Morning routine

Our new routine has been running for two weeks now and we are continuing to monitor how it is going for the children. We are aware that there are some parents who still feel very unhappy with the new arrangements, for differing reasons, whereas others are very happy with the change. With this in mind, we have decided to trial, until the end of this term, a 'free play Friday' when Reception and Year 1 children will play outside on a Friday morning, from when they arrive until the whistle blows at 8.45am (as it is an assembly day). This way, the children have the opportunity to run off steam at the end of a busy week, whilst, also enjoy the opportunity to spend time with their teachers in the security of their classrooms during the week too.

If you have any feedback about the current change, or, towards the end of the term, with regards to the new trial, please, do come in and chat to me, e-mail or telephone me. I can always arrange to meet you or to talk on the telephone. These are the best ways in which to deal with any concerns or issues.

Visiting the department

Thank you very much for your support in helping to keep heavy 'traffic' areas in the Pre-Prep clear and flowing, both in the morning and afternoon, it is both helpful and appreciated. Having said that, please, do come in whenever you need to! If your child has a new piece of work displayed in the classroom that they want you to see, then please do come and look – it is important to you and your child and we would be very disappointed if this didn't happen! Also, do continue to come in and speak to class teachers, or me, whenever you need too. You can also always e-mail any of us throughout the day, or leave a message on the Pre-Prep telephone. You can of course also arrange a private appointment to see one of us whenever the need arises.

If you, as parents, would like the opportunity and space to catch up with friends, or to make play dates in the mornings, please do feel free to spill into the playground on the days when the children are not playing outside. This will provide more space for you to chat together. I am delighted to inform you that the King's old boys and girls association

has offered to buy two 'grown up' benches for the playground, which will also provide a comfortable seating area.

We are always here to listen to your feedback, ideas, concerns, queries and successes and value your contribution to the development of the department. We act only in the best interests of your children, with particular regard to safety and welfare.

Christmas Patchwork

Just a reminder that ticket sales will continue this week, so do request your tickets if you haven't already. From Monday 21 November, you will have the opportunity to apply for extra tickets should you wish too. Please do this via the office, either in person or by e-mail.

Thank you in advance for all your support in providing a costume for your child, we are very grateful. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to ask.

For anyone who hasn't managed to return their permission slip regarding filming of 'Christmas Patchwork', please do so as soon as possible, or, if you prefer, e-mail your child's class teacher to let them know your decision. Thank you.

Christmas Fair

The next big event will be our Christmas fair. You should have received a flier in your child's book bag on Friday regarding the Pre-Prep being in charge of creating a 'Gourmet hamper' raffle prize. If you have any goodies you would like to send in for this delicious prize, you will find the collection basket in the corridor, outside my classroom. Many thanks in advance for your contributions.

I hope that you and your children enjoy the final few weeks of this Autumn term and the lead up to the Christmas break.

With very best wishes
Yours sincerely



Melanie Harries
Head of Pre-Prep