

13th January 2010

Dear Parents

Spring Term 2010

What a start to the New Year! After a routine return on Monday 4th January, we were unable to open due to the extreme weather conditions for the remainder of the week. We hoped to re-open on Thursday 7th January, but as the first staff and pupils arrived on site it became apparent that conditions were too hazardous and that it would be prudent to remain closed until Monday 11th, when a fresh start could be made.

Thank you for your tolerance and understanding during this uncertain period, and thanks also to our site management team for their efforts to clear the school grounds of snow and ice.

In order for us to be able to contact you in situations like this, it is important that your details are kept up to date on our database, and over the next few weeks we will be sending out the contact information we hold for your son or daughter. Would you please make any amendments necessary and return to school. This information will be treated with the strictest confidence.

Staffing

In addition to my own arrival as seconded Headteacher we were also pleased to welcome Miss Megan Roberts who joins our Modern Languages department and Ms Sarah Marsland who joins the English department to cover the period of 8 months maternity leave.

Our other recent arrival is Mr Graham Myers who joined the staff a few days before the Christmas break as Business Manager. Mr Myers oversees the non-teaching function of the school and leads and directs the work of our support staff.

My own position has been made possible following secondment for the next two terms from St Mary's, Menston, in North West Leeds. I am delighted and privileged to have the opportunity to work at St Wilfrid's. I am aware of great enthusiasm and commitment among staff and pupils. I look forward to helping the students make the most of their opportunities this year and working with colleagues to plan our provision from September 2010.

Well Done

Congratulations to Year 13 student, Ciaran Warters who has been offered a place at St Catherine's College, Cambridge to study Law.

Year 7 Parents Consultation

We look forward to meeting parents of Year 7 pupils at the consultation meetings arranged for Thursday 21st January at 4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

Inspire Lesson Event

During this half-term parents, of our Year 7's, are being invited to come into school to work with their children for a morning or afternoon on a problem solving adventure. Please look out for the letters and sign up if you can.

Ofsted Review of Progress of 14-19 reforms

On Tuesday this week we were pleased to welcome two Ofsted Inspectors who undertook a review of our provision of the Creative and Media Diploma. The review will contribute to a report on Wakefield's progress towards meeting the aims of the 14-19 reforms.

Weekly Communications

To assist timely communication between school and home I will compile a letter each week to include main events and announcements as appropriate. The letter will be sent home every Wednesday, so you may need to rummage in your son or daughter's school bag to be fully informed. A copy of the letter will also appear on our school website at www.st-wilfrids.wakefield.sch.uk

Other dates for this half term:

- January 28th Year 11 Parent Consultation
- February 1st Year 10 exams begin (classroom based)
- February 12th Year 9 Reports issues

Yours sincerely

M Pyle
Headteacher