

24<sup>th</sup> February 2010

Dear Parents

General Letter No. 6

**What a Performance!**

Well done to the students and staff who contributed to the success of our production 'Back to the 80's'. Music, acting and dancing was performed to a very high standard and the show was well received by our enthusiastic and appreciative audience.

**New Detention System**

The new detention system started this week in school after a successful launch with pupils towards the end of last half term. We ask parents to be fully supportive of the new system and offer a reminder that you will be notified in writing with at least 24 hour's notice that your son/daughter has a 'subject' or 'out of class' detention after school. The detentions take place in separate areas of the school with pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 carrying out their detention in a separate area to those pupils in Years 10 and 11. We continue to have high expectations of our pupils with a particular emphasis on uniform and around school behaviour. As after school detentions can now take place on a Thursday, we have set up a bus service on this night ensuring the option of transport home is available to our pupils. The only night this facility is not available is a Friday, when the Head Teacher's detention will take place. May we take this opportunity to ask you to provide the school with your up to date contact details - both address and telephone numbers - so that we are able to get in touch with you if necessary and get our written notification for detentions to you on time.

**New Developments**

We are developing a new and exciting 'Student Services' area in school. Refurbishment will take place to create a new, open and friendly environment which will house a number of services for our students. These include: Catholic Care, Careers and Connexions, Work Related Learning, Aim Higher and Pastoral Care. The service area is for **all** our students, sixth form included; they can find out about their future career, seek support and advice for their concerns and chat to members of staff about pastoral issues. A name and logo competition has been launched with a winning prize of £50 gift voucher for the White Rose Shopping Centre, plus the prestige of having their chosen name and logo design used for the new area! Entries are due in after half term. Work to the new area will be completed by mid March; please come along to see it when you're next visiting school. Work will also be starting on 15<sup>th</sup> February to refurbish the staff toilets adjacent to the staff room and the boys' toilets in M Block. Students have chosen the colour scheme for this.

**International Week - 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

Our annual International Week is fast approaching and we are looking for students to host or be ambassadors for our international guests. We will welcome around 200 students and teachers from ten countries who are looking forward to spending time at St Wilfrid's. This is our tenth international week and it promises to be action-packed with exciting projects, sports, concerts and excursions. All hosts and ambassadors will be fully involved in the week's events. Please contact Mr Storey in Modern Foreign Language Department to get further information and an application form.

### **Year 8 Options**

In preparation for the Year 8 Options Evening scheduled for 4<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30 p.m. the key stage 4 course information booklet was distributed on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February. We look forward to discussing future options with parents and pupils next week.

### **Help for Hiati**

Since the disastrous earthquake which struck early in the New Year, St Wilfrid's community have undertaken a number of fundraising activities. By half-term £3195.52 had been raised to support the relief fund. Thank you for your generous contributions.

### **Lent**

Lent is a time of preparation before Easter. It is a time when we make an extra effort to pray, fast and do good for others. There will be many fundraising events and activities this half term. Our focus for fundraising this half term is Haiti, CAFOD and the Good Shepherd Fund.

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CAFOD family fast day. To mark this occasion, students are encouraged to save a penny a day for the forty days of lent, this is a project initiated by our sixth form students. Year 7 students will also be encouraged to participate in the rich man poor man lunch during lunch time on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February.

Sixth form students 12 Gwynn have also organised and prepared a year 7 and 8 charity disco for Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February

### **Science GCSE:**

All Year 9 pupils and all Year 10 GCSE Science pupils have GCSE exams on Wednesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2010. It is very important that your son or daughter arrives on time for school that day.

### **Taster Session for Alternative Curriculum for Year 9**

WDH Construction held a Taster session on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2010. Jordan Kilburn, Jordan Cook, Marcus Evans, Ben Martin and Jonathan Dibb all attended this. They were given a guided tour round the workshops and the tutors explained what they would learn over the 2 year course. They then had a chance to do some practical work. They had a great time and were a credit to their year group, the school and their parents.

### **Activities Week**

Would parents please note Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February is the deadline for the reply slips to be returned.

Yours sincerely

**M Pyle**  
**Headteacher**