



From the Headmaster

21<sup>st</sup> June 2018

Dear parents,

As the end of the school year draws nearer, this letter provides information which I hope you will find useful.

### **This week**

Today we are delighted to be hosting the Independent Schools Association national one-day training conference for special needs coordinators (SENDCos) in independent schools. This afternoon the junior band will perform to their parents in a concert celebrating their work over the year, and tomorrow afternoon will witness a show-down between the staff and senior boys in a football match taking place at the very end of our flexi-Friday which, up until that point at 3pm will have been focused on Personal, Social, Health and Economics education (PSHEE).

### **Activities Week**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June is Activities Week where, in place of the normal timetable, pupils are participating in events, day trips and longer, residential visits. For some of these activities you will already have received instructions regarding specific clothing requirements. However, as a general rule, boys may wear their home-clothes each day next week and should not come to school in uniform.

The usual schedule of after-school clubs and activities is suspended for Activities Week, and pupils in school may therefore prefer to be collected at 4.20pm. However, for all those on-site between 4.30pm and 5.30pm, activities will be arranged on a day by day basis, with boys meeting at 4.30pm in a central location before choosing an activity. Please note that none of the pre-paid activities will operate during this week. Similarly, there will be no peripatetic instrumental music lessons, or after-school music clubs during the week.

### **Last week of term**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July is the start of the last week of the school year. All pupils in years Ten and below should return to wearing normal school uniform, please, for this final week which must be a busy week of learning before the holidays.

On **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July, from 7pm, we will be hosting Music on a Summer's Evening**, showcasing our musicians' talents in a variety of performances from different school ensembles. The Brass and Concert bands will have very recently returned

## **More House School**

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from their performance tour to Lake Garda in Italy. There will be refreshments, including a bar where you will be invited to make a contribution to our charitable fundraising supporting both the national children's cancer charity CLIC Sargent, and the Friends of More House School. We hope that many of you will come to enjoy the evening and to support pupils.

Earlier on Wednesday, pupils who represent their peers' opinions and ideas for school development through the school's Pupil Voice forum (a bit like a student council), will visit the Farnham Town Council chambers to meet with the mayor, and then to conduct their own More House School Pupil Voice meeting using the council chamber and facilities.

On **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July** the More House School chapel choir will accompany representatives from the pupil, staff and governing body to conduct the annual visit to the grave of the school's founder and first headmaster, Brother Joseph Gard'ner, buried in West Street cemetery, Farnham. We will plant a Frensham Rose, to commemorate his vision, work and legacy through prayer and song.

On **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July** the school day will finish at the normal Friday timings, but it is expected that all boarders, including Weekly Boarders, will remain in school overnight on Friday before Founder's Day the following morning. If your son is a boarder and is not expected to remain in school overnight on Friday, please make sure you have confirmed arrangements with the boarding staff.

#### **Founder's Day – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July**

I am delighted to announce that Dr Joshua Muggleton, Clinical Psychologist and public speaker, will be our guest of honour on Founder's Day, presenting each pupil with his prize or certificate, and provide pupils, parents and the staff with an insight into his formative years and challenges, and offering inspiration to our pupils for their futures.

All pupils in Years Eleven and below should wear smart school uniform, and I ask that pupils make sure they wear clean, polished school shoes, clean school trousers, a clean, pressed white shirt and their school tie, or their school polo-shirt if in the junior years. School jumpers and school blazers are optional, depending on the weather conditions.

Pupils in the Sixth Form are expected to wear a smart lounge-suit and tie, with appropriate clean and polished footwear. Parents and visitors are warmly welcome, and are asked to dress with similar formality.

Boys are encouraged to bring to school a small bottle of water on Founder's Day. No school bags should be brought into school on Founder's Day.

Pupils and their parents should arrive at school from 9.30am, and will need to be seated in the marquee on the playing fields by 10.10am.

Vehicular access for parents, visitors and the staff on Founder's Day morning will be through the gate at the bottom of the playing fields, accessed via the track leading off Hamlash Lane; please look for the signs and for the school staff offering direction. I ask that you do not seek to enter the school's Main Reception car-park entrance or through the lower entrance opposite Kennel Lane, unless specifically instructed to do so by the staff on duty.

The ceremony is expected to conclude a little after midday, after which musical performances and exhibitions of boys' work will be enjoyed around the site. Following the ceremony's conclusion, pupils will be under the responsibility of their parents, and I hope that you will share in the refreshments that will be served on the lawns below the terrace, outside Main House. You are then welcome to take your son home when you are ready.

Following the ceremony, the boarding houses will be opened for boarders to collect their belongings and, once the number of people and vehicles reduces, parents of boarders are welcome to bring their vehicles closer to the houses if they so wish. I ask that when driving on site, particular care is taken due to the large numbers of children, other pedestrians and vehicles present. Please note that there is no school transport provided to the railway station after the Founder's Day ceremony.

Finally, I look forward to welcoming you and your families to the school on Founder's Day morning to share in celebrating the achievements of the boys and their school community through the course of the past twelve months.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. C. Hetherington', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr Jonathan C. Hetherington BA (Hons) MSc (Ed) QTS  
Headmaster