

# HEADMASTER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEK 3, 20TH SEPTEMBER, 2024



Dear Parents

I write to you today all the way from Wales where I have been representing the School at the Annual IAPS Conference. It has, as ever, been a truly informative conference with topics as wide-ranging as AI in education to crisis management to developing an exceptional culture of well-being for all. It will not surprise you that there was also a great deal about the impending VAT on fees and about the climate that independent schools will need to navigate in the years ahead. It gave me great pride to reflect on our plans to support families in the face of VAT that we communicated to you just before the start of the academic year. Now that we know more about the intended plans of other schools surrounding VAT, I am pleased that we are currently able to offer support at a level that significantly exceeds what the majority of the sector is proposing.

In other events this week, I would like to say a huge thank you to all who joined me for 'Headmaster's Tea and Cake'; it was a real pleasure to meet so many welcoming parents, guardians and friends of the school – well done to all for demolishing an exceptional amount of cake and biscuits! Just before the tea and cake, I also had the pleasure of meeting with some of our incredible PTA Trustees to hear about the exciting plans for the year ahead. May I take this opportunity to thank them in advance for all that they will do for the school community this year and to strongly encourage all of you to support the PTA and their events over the course of this year – it not only contributes significantly to our sense of community as a school, but also helps raise funds for some really meaningful projects for our pupils.

I would also like to say thank you to all who attended the first 'Active Learning' interactive parents' evening which took place for parents in Year 1 and 2; I hope that this was a great opportunity to explore your child's class and understand a bit more about Pre Prep life. We also enjoyed a busy week with some of the opening fixtures of both the hockey and rugby seasons – a huge well done to all who represented the school so superbly. I am eager to find out the results of our School Council elections as it has been wonderful chatting to the pupils about why they want to be members of the School Council and I am looking forward to interviews for Year 8 Prefects in the weeks ahead. Finally, it was great to see our first optional Year 7 and 8 theatre trip take place this week and I look forward to hearing all about it on my return.

I hope that you all have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing all of the pupils on Monday.



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