



October 4th 2011

Dear Parents,

The extraordinary October sunshine has made this a remarkable start to our year in so many ways, and played its part in defining a remarkably upbeat, positive, and successful Autumn Term to date.

Some staffing news for you first. Mrs Saira MacNicol has joined us as our first dedicated Marketing Assistant. Saira is a parent of two children in Calvi and having first taught History to secondary age children, Saira moved into Museum Education. She gained considerable experience and success as the Head of New Audiences at the Natural History Museum. Saira, who is with us on a part-time basis, began her new role last week and we are delighted to have her on board.

Those of you with children in Calvi will already be aware that Kate Morrison, our Year 1 teacher, will go on maternity leave at the end of this term and we wish Kate and John every possible happiness for exciting times to come. And Sarah Barford, our Early Years Practitioner in Nursery, who has recently gained her BA Hons in Early Years, has decided that she must add to her career experience and will leave us next term. We shall, of course, find a moment in due course to thank Sarah for the very great deal she has contributed to the Feltonfleet community and, in particular, to the children in Nursery over the past two years. A succession process is already underway.

Your children have already contributed wholeheartedly to some excellent sport in every corner of the school. Of many excellent results so far, the U-8A football side in Year 3 remain undefeated after six matches, and the U-13A girls' hockey side were the runners up in the Highfield Hockey tournament last week. Its' captain, Storm Graham (Year 8), has been selected for the Surrey U-13 girls hockey side. Very well done to her. Harry North (Year 6) is the Surrey U-11 Squash Champion, an outstanding achievement and Tom Fox (also Year 6) was a valiant and impressive quarter-finalist. Chess is thriving once again at Feltonfleet, and we have in Andrew Smailes (Year 6) the runner up in the English Riviera Competition which took place over a recent weekend in Torquay. He was representing Surrey at national level.

A parent of a child in the Junior Department has written to make two observations about unrelated aspects of our games infrastructure. I mention this here because the points raised may be of help and information to a wider audience. The first relates to name labels on games kit. The longer servers will recall that we introduced the current scheme several

years ago in response to parental pleas to try and avert the widespread mislaying of games kit. We may not be perfect in this respect but it has had a very positive effect in the time since. If you are in any doubt about how the labelling system works, I would ask you to search out the relevant detail on page 28 of the Current Information Booklet for Parents (www.feltonfleet.co.uk/information/Resources/current%20information%202011-2012.pdf).

Secondly, team sheets and post codes of away match venues. I think it is unlikely that colleagues will add the post codes of away match venues to their team sheets but the route finder system on the web site, devised by a member of the *Friends of Feltonfleet Committee* several years ago, should help you to locate where the children are playing (<http://www.feltonfleet.co.uk/information/routefinder.html>). This database is now maintained by the PE team and is, I understand, comprehensive and up to date. If you haven't discovered this yet I do hope you find it useful when the time comes.

I am pleased to tell you that Mrs Debbie Burgess has joined the Board of Governors. Some of you will know Debbie already if you have a child at St John's Leatherhead where she is the Head of Maths and the Senior Mistress with responsibility for the welfare of girls throughout the school. Debbie is a great fan of Feltonfleet and I know her experience and insight will do much to further our links with St John's. I should add here my warm thanks to Governors who were able to come along and help us to welcome so many visitors on Open Morning. We met 85 families on Saturday, a more than satisfactory turn out in view of the weather and a certain rugby match - It was fascinating to witness the surge in arrivals of families about twenty minutes after the England game ended! I am most grateful to the many of you who ensured your children were in school and helping us, and indeed to the children themselves. They did such a super job of promoting their school.

I very much hope that your child has made a happy and purposeful start to the term. If that doesn't seem to be the case for your child, I need to know!

With best wishes

Yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John', written in a cursive style.