



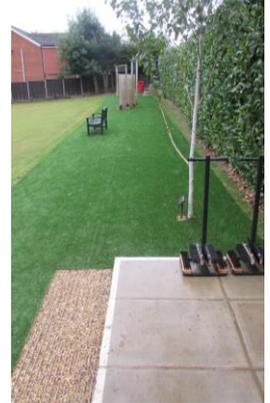
*Give me courage when the world is rough, keep me loving though the world is tough;  
Leap and sing in all I do, Keep me travelling along with you:  
And it's from the old I travel to the new; Keep me travelling along with you.*

Dear Parents,

It has been great to welcome you all to St Hilda's this week and to see the girls coming in eagerly through the gates for their first week of learning. They look exceedingly smart in the uniforms and have been embracing new classes, teachers and rooms with enthusiasm. In particular, the new girls have shown great composure and taken their place confidently amongst the St Hilda's community. I do hope that all our new parents have felt welcomed, both in and out of the School. It was good to hear that form reps had organised picnics and playdates for new pupils in the holidays.



We are delighted with the new artificial grass and sail, together with our canopy. Today's rain was the perfect opportunity to try everything out and the girls were able to use the grass and climbing frame despite the damp, and enjoy their snack under cover. Thank you to all concerned.



As always, the start of the term and a new academic year brings with it a host of organisation. I would as always draw your attention to the Calendar of Events that your daughter has received this week, containing lots of important information regarding dates and clubs. This is reflected in the online calendar via our website

home page. Do remember to look at the form pages for updates, together with news at the foot of the home page regarding trips and of course, our Facebook page.

#### **Forest School Training**

The teachers had a fun afternoon on Monday foraging around the grounds for different materials during our INSET training on Forest Schools. We took shelter under the new canopy which, I am sure, everyone has admired this week. We are already looking forward to moving this development to our curriculum forward throughout the year.

#### **Charity Collections**

The two charity events at the end of term were very well supported and we are most grateful to all members of the School community who contributed to the magnificent total of £3011.64. I am sure that all will feel this is a fitting tribute to the late Mrs Stringer whose courage we all remember. The girls also had a fun afternoon on the field on the final Wednesday in July, raising £311.45 for the Bedfordshire Wildlife Trust.



#### **Packed Lunches**

We are going to be providing packed lunches for all girls on educational trips from the start of term, which are included in the price of fees. This will hopefully alleviate any issues over nut products and for girls with other allergies. It is sometimes difficult to ensure that all contents of lunches provided especially if girls occasionally, despite close supervision, swap the contents of their boxes.

#### **Debating Club**

We are pleased to be offering a new Debating Club for girls from Form III, which is being run by Mrs Such on a Friday lunchtime. This was one of the suggestions from last term's School Council and I am very pleased that we are able to offer this, starting next week. Please contact the School Office if your daughter would like to join. Numbers are limited so please rely early to avoid disappointment.

#### **Violin and Viola Lessons**

We still have availability for violin and viola lessons. If your daughter is interested in learning the violin or viola please contact Mrs Lipman to arrange a trial lesson.

#### **Parking**

Can we please remind parents to consider others when parking at the start and end of the day. We have had complaints already from neighbours and pedestrians about parents/carers blocking driveways when dropping children at school. This, along with being inconsiderate to neighbours, reduces the number of safe places for pedestrians to cross the road when coming to St Hilda's or elsewhere. If someone else i.e. grandparent or nanny drops your child at school please can you pass this message on to them.

A reminder that the Walking Bus is no longer operational on a Wednesday morning.

Next Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> September, is the time for our school photographs. Following feedback last year, we will be making sure that all girls are presented appropriately for the photo and we ask that their hair is especially tidy for this day. Girls should be in smart winter uniform with blue or red hair accessories.

Many congratulations to Mr and Mrs Addis who became parents again on Monday morning. Christopher Robert weighed in at 7lb 6oz and mother and son are doing well.

The next newsletter will be published on Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

With best wishes

Mr Sayers  
Headmaster