



St Hilda's School

HARPENDEN

Caring, Curious & Confident

START OF YEAR NEWSLETTER

No. 83

Thursday 5th September 2019



'With each step I am more certain, everything will turn out fine. I have confidence, the world can all be mine, they'll have to agree I have confidence in me. I have confidence in sunshine, I have confidence in rain, I have confidence that spring will come again! Besides what you see I have confidence in me.' Richard Rodgers

Dear Parents,

The academic year has started in full force today and it has been great to feel the heart of the School beating once again. Having spent considerable time here over the summer in a quiet atmosphere, the lively sound of voices, singing and laughter has assumed its rightful place once again. I do hope you have all had a good summer and a chance to rest and reflect. This morning, we considered in assembly the importance of confidence in our lives, what it is, how we measure it and how we can obtain and maintain it. Helped along by Julie Andrew's sumptuous singing of 'I have confidence', one Form I girl reminded us that confidence is 'something good and strong that people give you by helping you get better at things', which I thought was a marvellous definition. Our new strapline is '*caring, curious and confident*', the three words which we feel sum up a St Hilda's pupil. We strive to exemplify a caring approach in all we do, to cultivate curiosity in every aspect of learning and to encourage confidence in all our pupils. Sometimes this is in small steps of growth, however it is remarkable to see the end result of a St Hilda's girl as she steps out of her prep-school life and into her senior education.

Form VI have certainly grown physically over the summer, together with many others, and they also seemed to have grown in confidence and maturity as they came up to receive their badges to represent their position of responsibility in assembly. We wish them well in their new roles and in the important and exciting year ahead.

We are pleased to welcome new staff this term. Miss Sewell is working with Mrs Buckland in Form II, Mrs Stannard is working as a TA in Forms III and IV, and Mrs Pearson has returned to St Hilda's as Head of Learning Support. Mrs Pearson has sadly suffered back problems and will not be joining us for a couple of weeks. Mrs Balcombe is covering all of Mrs Pearson's support lessons. I am also pleased to welcome Mrs Marie Price, who will be leading the Music Department this term until Mrs Lipman returns at Christmas. Mrs Price is well-known and respected in the local music scene and works for the Hertfordshire Music Service, in addition to being Head of Music at several schools. We hope all our new staff will be very happy with us.

A lot has happened behind the scenes over the summer. We have had a new IT system installed and a new IT support company. Inevitable there have been a few teething issues and we would ask you to bear with us as this beds in.

The most exciting thing to report is the launch of our new website, which is going live over the next few hours. An incredible amount of work has gone on to create what I think presents our wonderful School in the best possible light. Please do take a look, at the usual address www.sthildasharpندن.co.uk.

Clubs

Mrs Fereday has been busy sending through club information and dealing with queries. The Orchestra will not be on a Friday lunchtime but will instead be at the usual time after school at 3.45pm. I am also pleased to announce that Mrs Rushbrook and Mr Smith will be running a 'Jumps and Throws' club after School on Monday. This is for girls in Forms IV, V and VI and is only for working on high and long jump, javelin, discus, shot and rounders throwing. There are 12 places available and the club starts on 16th September.

Calendar of Events

Your child will have received a copy of the Calendar of Events diary in their bag today. Please note all the important information regarding dates, clubs, parent consultations, FOSH events and term dates.

Curriculum Events

We are pleased to be offering curriculum mornings early this term, to explain to parents the workings of our English and Maths teaching and to enable you to find out more about strategies and how you can support your child at home. Form teachers will be in touch over dates for these in due course.

eSafety

Another reminder that our eSafety day is Tuesday, 15th October. I would strongly urge all parents to attend this free, evening event starting at 7pm where we shall be addressed by Teresa Hughes, who previously spoke to parents in 2017. All of us bear responsibility for the safety of our children and this is particularly so with technology.

Wishing everyone a great year ahead, full of industry, achievement and challenge.

Best wishes
Mr Sayers
Headmaster



OUTDOOR EXPLORERS

at St.Hilda's School
Harpenden

Fun and Adventure for Boys and Girls
aged 2 - 4 yrs along with an accompanying adult

Led by a fully trained Forest School Leader

Wednesdays 9.15 am - 10.15 am

£5 per session or £25 per half-term

Starts 11th Sept 2019

Book at outdoorexplorers@sthildasharpenden.co.uk



TECH CAMP



AGES 5-11

A place for creative kids!

New Science day!



HOPSCOTCH CODING

Learn to design and code games or art with Hopscotch. Get creative and code scripts to produce customised games to share with friends

+ MINECRAFT MODS



PHOTOGRAPHY EDITING

Calling all aspiring photographers! Have a creative blast by capturing images and transforming them with the use of digital editing software.

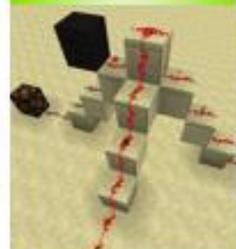
+ 3D WORLD BUILDING



VEX ROBOTICS

Get hands-on with the latest robots and power them with code. Exploring variables, events, conditionals and encouraging creativity!

+ MINECRAFT REDSTONE



HOVERCRAFT CREATION

Learn about aerodynamics with a hovercraft drone. Program your own ariel stunts or get creative build your own modular creation from scratch!

+ SPORT TECHNOLOGY



EXCITING EXPERIMENTS

Fantastically fun! This day involves exciting science experiments, bubbles, rockets and lively lava! Plus, more tech fun activities at your fingertips.

+ TECH FUN



Activity order may not be the same as this flyer, consult website for day by day activity list for your school

Limited Spaces Available



ST HILDA'S SCHOOL
28 DOUGLAS ROAD, HARPENDEN
AL5 2ES

28TH OCTOBER - 1ST NOVEMBER 2019
9 AM - 3 PM

FROM £40 PER DAY

TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD ONLINE PLEASE VISIT:

WWW.NEXTTHING.EDUCATION

NEW
ACTIVITIES
EVERY
HOLIDAY!

QUESTIONS? INFO@NEXTTHING.EDUCATION OR CALL US ON 01442 873150



uPlay Harpenden Junior Netball Club

Autumn 2019

**11 weeks of netball coaching, fun,
fitness and friends
for ages 9 - 14**

Qualified UKCC netball coaches and DBS checked
First Aiders on site

**Sir John Lawes School
Manland Way, Harpenden. AL5 4QP**

**Wednesday evenings 11th September
– 11th December 2019**
(no sessions 02/10, 23/10, 30/10)

Cost: £77 for 11 weeks

BOOK NOW !
uplaysports.co.uk



uPlay Sports

If you require more information please contact office@uplaysports.co.uk