

February 2015

Dear Parents

BWS Founder's Day Service, Saturday 25 April 2015

I have pleasure in inviting you all to this year's Founder's Day Service in the Cathedral on 25 April. Family members and friends are most welcome to come too. We are breaking with tradition this year in terms of the date, primarily because of the Cathedral's own celebrations for the Magna Carta, but also to mark the 125th anniversary of the founding of Bishop Wordsworth's School (as close as we could to the significant date). I enclose an extract from the book written by one of my predecessors: Dr F C Happold:

"...a site of half an acre, adjoining the grounds of the Palace, was purchased from the Dean and Chapter and, in 1889 building started. Bishop Wordsworth did not, however, wait until the new school buildings were completed; he decided to start the school at once in the Palace... On Monday January 13th 1890 45 boys assembled in the 13th century Bishop Poore's Hall. On April 16th, 1890, the school building was ready and was dedicated by the Bishop himself."

We are particularly honoured this year that Bishop Nicholas Holtham has kindly agreed to preach at our service of dedication and thanksgiving.

The Founder's Day Service will commence at **10.00 am** but it would be helpful if you could be seated by **9.50 am**. After the service, which will last about an hour, there will be a Spring Fête, organised by the Parents' Association. There will also be two performances of a short concert programme in the Drama Studio at 11.45 am and 12.10 pm.

All boys are expected to attend the service and to wear full school uniform. The boys have a day off at the end of the academic year in lieu of this commitment and I do, therefore, expect parents to ensure that their sons support this important occasion. Unless they are involved directly in the service or as one of the Cathedral Stewards, boys should attend school for registration at 9.15 am. Members of the Choir must meet at 8.30 am in the Cathedral.

Please note: there will be an area of reserved seating at the front of the nave for the Head Master's guests. Please be kind enough not to use this area.

Because of the Fête the main school site will be closed to cars and, except for the disabled, parking is no longer permitted in the Cathedral Close. Also, Saturday is a market day, which may cause a delay when travelling into the city and finding somewhere to park.

Yours sincerely

S D Smallwood
Head Master