

**Exeter Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2ED**

**Telephone:** 01722 333 851

**Fax:** 01722 325 899

**Email:** [admin@bws.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bws.wilts.sch.uk)

**Website:** [www.bws-school.org.uk](http://www.bws-school.org.uk)

**Head Master:** Dr S D Smallwood BSc (Hons) PhD NPQH

1 September 2016

Dear Parents

I hope that you have had the chance to have a decent break during the Summer that is now almost ended, and that if your boy(s) were involved in the exams treadmill he emerged with a smile on his face! The boys and their teachers now embark upon what I always call the engine room of the school year – 16 weeks or so of academic work up until Christmas.

The year that is starting is going to be a challenging one from the perspective of site management. When you next visit the school you will see just how much space is occupied by the building compound for the new block. This time (probably for the first time in my time at BWS) a new build is physically taking place right in the operational heart of the school, which means that it will have the maximum possible impact on day-to-day life. Past projects (and there have been a lot of them that I have seen!) have always seemed to be more manageable in scale. This time the building compound is not only the biggest that I have experienced, but it also obliterates that most precious commodity for the boys – space to run around. We will manage, but there will be times where things will get a bit frayed I am sure...but we will get there. The build will take the best part of the academic year, so by next June the last large piece of the BWS jigsaw will be in place on the main site.

Elsewhere, the Site Team and ICT Staff have managed miracles over the Summer in terms of classroom and office relocation and there are likely to be further changes in the disposition of teaching accommodation as we plan for both the new building coming on stream and also the expansion to five forms of entry. Despite the logistical problems which will hit from the very start, and the inevitable trauma of the start of a new term, we are going through a very exciting time in the school's development. The exam results in the Summer give us a splendid foundation to build on and last year's combination of academics and extra-curricular was something of which we can all be very proud.

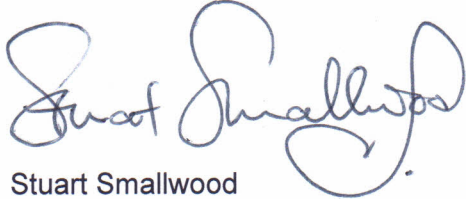
Several new staff join us this year and I would like to welcome Mr Alan Murphy as our new Head of Physics and Mrs Catherine Pennington to the Business Studies Department.

Can I encourage you to use the full range of digital avenues of communication with school during the year. The school's website has a wealth of up to date information (including access to a detailed planning calendar and term dates), and is a platform for over 30 twitter feeds which give updates on the full range of school life. Using the website and twitter really is a little like having your finger on the pulse of the school, and information will frequently be sent to you by email to ensure that you keep in touch with essential details too. Copies of the vast majority of letters home are archived on the website – the era of 'boy-post', with all of the unpredictability that it encompassed is past...

Can I briefly remind you of a couple of essential safety points at the start of the year, relating to transport? Firstly, there will be no parking available at any time on the school site during the year. Secondly, if you are intending to give your son a lift to school then please DO NOT drop him off near the school gates on Exeter Street (whichever side of the road you are on). Parked cars narrow the flow of traffic and obscure the view so that boys are at greater risk...please think carefully about the safety of your son and others before you stop to let him out or collect him.

Please could you also ensure that we have up to date contact and medical information for your son at all times. Please email Mrs Sarah Hayward to update his records [sah@bws.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:sah@bws.wilts.sch.uk).

Finally I would like to wish you and your boy all the best for the coming academic year. I really do hope that he works hard, enjoys himself and finds something at which he can really shine – and that he tells you about it when he gets home! I look forward to seeing you at one of the many parents' events in school in 2016-2017.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stuart Smallwood'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Stuart' and last name 'Smallwood' clearly distinguishable.

Stuart Smallwood  
Head Master