



Bishop Wordsworth's School

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

18 July 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians

As I write this I am surrounded by boxes of kit and balls both in readiness for the forthcoming tour to Hong Kong & Australia, but also the start of the new academic year, my office looks more like a play fort/store cupboard than a place of work. That said, the boxes remind me of what is to come shortly and in the future and of what has happened this term to facilitate these boxes being here.

Rugby Tour Hong Kong & Australia 2017

The last two years have been building towards Wednesday's departure to Hong Kong, the school's first match ever against English school legends Sedbergh at Kings Park, Kowloon and our then return to Australia to play our friends in The Cathedral School Townsville, followed by Australia school giants TSS, Gold Coast and then Kings, Sydney.

The boys have been training hard since Easter following their extended season, and train hard they have in preparation for what is sure to be a trip of a lifetime. Behind the scenes however over £12,000 has been raised by the boys and parents to help facilitate the various excursions and copious amounts of food to be enjoyed while away. Without this input and hard work a lot of what is on offer wouldn't have been possible and so I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has helped, and to our two big sponsors ABC Networking and Trethowans. 10% of all monies raised is going to Wings for Life who have supported Jack Fishwick, and so I am doubly pleased we are able to send them a great sum too.

I am also pleased to announce our friends at Blue Frontier have agreed to sponsor our match day balls for rugby this season and Fawcetts have sponsored us and will appear on our soon to be released new 1st XV strip. Without such help we wouldn't be able to run the competitive programmes that we do and continue our proud tradition of competing with the very best on a national level across all our sports.

Alumni Sportsmen

I must quickly mention Cadan Murley who, after playing and starring for England U18s earlier this year, is due to tour with the U18s to South Africa later this summer before returning to Harlequins to begin his career as a professional rugby player full time. Our first since Tom Heathcote who has resigned with Worcester, and has been back to aid the boys in their preparation for tour. I'd be remiss not to also highlight Robbie Keith our first full international since Tom, who is now living in Hong Kong and played against Japan and South Korea in the Asian Championships and now bids to be part of a successful team seeking a place in the Rugby World Cup.

Multi Sports Tour Japan 2019

Robbie is not the only BWS boy to have Japan in their sights. My intention to run a multi sports tour has come to fruition (assuming enough boys and parents like the idea) as I begin to plan our next tour to Japan 2019 for football, basketball and rugby for those boys currently in Y9 and Y10 – letters should have been received via parent mail. This trip is in line with my intention to grow the profile of all our sports, as I truly believe we have the boys and staff to take anyone on and be up there with the best in our country and abroad.

Football

I am excited by the prospect of the culture change taking place within the football, the way we are playing, the buy in to extra training and pleased to see the intention to join rugby for a pre-season week ahead of term beginning in September. The success this year has not only been in the style of play, but also making three out of five local finals this term and bringing two trophies home. We are also pleased to see Vaughan Covil's hard work and talent recognised by his call up to the England U15s and his continued progress at Southampton, while Rob Jones continues his development with Bournemouth.

Athletics

Both of the above boys have also been key to our athletics success over the last few years, and this year was no different with both the junior and inter teams making Schools Cup Regionals and narrowly missing out on National Finals. We dominated the Area and County competitions with numerous boys making South West selection and two going onto the nationals in Jaymee Domoney and Aaron Campbell, both finishing top 10 nationally. Jaymee is now heading off to the States for university and to continue his running development. The athletics future looks strong with our Y7 boys making up most of the county minors team and making the podium in nearly all events while also winning the county finals of the school games in the super 8 competition.

Tennis

The School Games also allowed our tennis players another outing with the Aegon players coming a creditable second to a very strong Wootton Bassett, while our non-club players won the closed competition in some style. These teams were partly picked off the back of our largest ever Road to Wimbledon competition where a first round of 128 saw George Grant crowned the winner who went on to county finals and we await to hear if he has made it through to the finals at Wimbledon later in the summer.

Cricket

Our cricketers have had a busy summer competing in the U13 Cathedral Schools VI's, while the U14s and U15s were runners up in their county finals of the Lord Taverners and ESCB ESCA T20. Outside of school our cricketers have experienced success also with the South Wilts CC boys in Y10 (C Chaddock, B Highton, E Wade, J Ball) winning their county T20 and are one win now from the National Final.

Sports Day

As we turn our attention to the summer holidays and a well-earned rest for all (after tour) we have the small matter of sports day to enjoy on the penultimate day of term – I would say I have no doubt J will bring home the trophy, but our form of recent years hasn't been stellar and so I'll instead wish everyone all the best, especially the J house teams and thank Mr Hole for putting together what will be another great finish to the school year.

Staff Leavers

Thank you to all of the PE Department who have played their part this term and over the year, as well as our volunteer staff and parents. In particular to Mr Churchill, Mr Corley and Mr Gilmour who are all moving on and who have all played huge parts this year and over the last ten years in Mr Gilmour's case. It has been a pleasure to work with them all, they will be missed by the staff and boys and I wish them all the best in their next posts, except for on 23 September and 25 November when we play Millfield and Marlborough respectively!

I hope you all have a fantastic summer and the boys come back refreshed ready for the next academic year. Rugby and cross country fixtures are already in the calendar, football will soon be coming through along with basketball and so the usual routine begins again. Until then, enjoy the sun, keep active and keep an eye on @BWSRugby and see how the boys are getting on abroad.

R Demain-Griffiths
Director of Sport



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Dear Parents/Guardians

THE CATHEDRAL SCHOOL, AUSTRALIA 2017 – HOST REQUEST

SUNDAY 17 – TUESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2017

On Monday 18 September we are due to play rugby against The Cathedral School from Australia. We hosted them a couple of years ago and they are returning the favour this summer on our tour. We look forward to welcoming them back as we have found billeting a beneficial experience from a cultural and rugby perspective.

They arrive on Sunday 17 September and will require hosting for two nights. The rough itinerary is as follows:

Sunday 17 September	1400 (TBC)	Host meet and pick up from BWS
Monday 18 September	0840	Host drop off at BWS
	1430	BWS v Cathedral School (1 st XV and Developmental XV)
	1700	Host pick up from BWS
Tuesday 19 September	0840	Host drop off at BWS

The boys (aged 16-18) will hopefully all billet in pairs, there is one group of three potentially. On the Monday and Tuesday they are to come to school with the BWS students and will start their day there and likewise return at the end of the school day with students.

There will be a match tea following the match on Monday, please come and support and join us afterwards.

Please email me directly if you are able to offer accommodation by Friday 8 September 2017 if not sooner. Thank you.

Yours sincerely

R J DEMAIN-GRIFFITHS
Director of Sport
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