



BEDSTONE
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7th September 2011

Dear Parents

I am delighted to have the opportunity to introduce myself and to say how privileged and honoured I feel to have been appointed as Headmaster of Bedstone College. I look forward to nurturing its many qualities and helping it to evolve and embrace the challenges of the future.

My wife Gabi and I have been overwhelmed by the warm welcome that we have received from staff. It just confirms our feelings that Bedstone is a very special place.

I have been given a wonderful welcome present in the form of the academic successes following this year's GCSE and A Level results – please do see our website under the news section. Well done to all the scholars!

With a new Head in any school, the first question asked by parents is often what is going to change and my consistent answer has been that I shall be spending the next few terms looking and learning all about Bedstone and how it works and identifying those aspects which need to be cherished and those which I believe need to be changed to ensure that Bedstone continues to evolve in its innovative and dynamic way.

There is however one important change that I do have to draw your attention to, (*not my fault*), and that is the dates for the Spring 2012 Half term which have been put back one week to reflect the extra public holiday for Her Majesty's Jubilee. Half term will now commence on Saturday 2nd June with boarders back on Sunday 10th June 2012.

I am delighted to welcome this term four new members of staff who will be joining the Bedstone team. As previously advised, with the ever increasing numbers in the prep department, we shall be splitting Prep 1 Upper and Lower for literacy and numeracy and we therefore welcome Mrs Jo Marriott, a prep school teacher who has just returned from teaching in the Middle East to take this new role on.

As Mrs Julia Richards starts her maternity leave we welcome Mr Nigel Burrows who was deputy Head at Pownall Hall School in Cheshire before deciding to spend two years with VSO and who has kindly agreed to step in during Julia's leave.

In the senior school, we welcome Miss Ella Parry who joins us to teach junior Science, Biology and Sport Science. Ella graduated with a first class honours degree in Sport Science from Birmingham and is a qualified fitness instructor and is the holder of a Gold DofE Award.

Within the boarding house community, Troy and Bobby-Jo Looms take over as houseparents in Rutter House following Mrs R's retirement last term. Troy is known to many Bedstonians as a Rugby Coach and played for the Old Luctonians and, together with his wife, Bobby-Jo they were much loved Houseparents at Lucton School before moving back to New Zealand.

Troy has always wanted to be part of the Bedstone family and we are delighted to be able to welcome him, Bobby-Jo and their three children into our community. In addition to being a Houseparent, Troy will also be joining the Sports Department.

Bedstone exists to serve its scholars and its parents, and it just remains for me to wish you a very good term and to say that I very much look forward to seeing you during the course of the year - do please introduce yourselves at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely

David Gajadharsingh
Headmaster