



# Priestlands School

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Headteacher Mr C A Willsher BA, MEd



March 2010

Dear Parent

## Staffing update

In my last letter, I advised that we were facing some staffing issues in science. As a result, a parent has offered her services. I am delighted to be able to advise that we have now appointed Mrs Amy Marshall as a science teacher for the summer term.

I must try this novel approach to staff recruitment again!

## Subsidy Funding

As part of a government scheme to help disadvantaged students, the school has received money to subsidise the costs of extra curricular activities. This money can be spent in any way that will enable a student to take part in activities that they would otherwise not be able to. This includes after school activities and some school trips, but can also include holiday or weekend activities that have no connection with school.

The funding is particularly aimed at low income families, but not just at students receiving free school meals. You might also be eligible if you receive Working Tax Credits and earn less than £12,865 a year (single parents) or £17,400 a year (living with a partner).

Other eligible families include those where:

- children are acting as carers;
- children and young people are experiencing difficult family issues, such as bereavement or living with family members other than parents;
- parents have health problems or disabilities; or
- there are other sensitive issues

I would ask parents to bear this in mind when trips and other activities are advertised. Please speak to the activity leader or your child's Head of Year if you would like to be considered for a subsidy from this fund.

## ***Wilts & Dorset Bus Company: Bus fares for Children and Young People***

In February 2010, Wilts & Dorset Bus Company changed its fare policy for children and young people. The main points of the new policy are:

- Accompanied children under 7 will travel free
- All children and young people aged 7 to 18 (inclusive) will travel at child fare at all times, the only exceptions being the night buses on the m1/m2 routes in Bournemouth and Poole, where flat rate fares apply to all passengers and a few routes operated from colleges where colleges set the fare levels.
- The level of discount for child fares will change from 45% to 30%

## ***Priestlands Association (our PTA)***

The last PTA quiz (5<sup>th</sup> March) raised over £300 for school funds. The next Quiz will take place in October.

Our next event is a Barn Dance on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Tickets cost £12.50 to include entry and a ploughman's supper. There will be a live band and a licensed bar. There will even be prizes for the best dressed cowboy and cowgirl (costumes not compulsory)!

You might also like to plan ahead to our Autumn Ball on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October. Details will follow next term!



arts colleges



Hampshire  
County Council



Enclosed with this letter are details of the Priestlands Association's 1000 Club. This is a lottery scheme with monthly cash prizes that also raises money for the school. Please do consider joining the 1000 Club if you are able: it could make a huge difference to what we can offer our pupils.

**Free computers for low income families**

If you are a low income family in receipt of certain benefits you could qualify for a grant to buy a computer and/or a minimum of one year's internet access. The programme is aimed at those that need it most and targets families that do not have access to a computer or the internet at home. Please contact the school for further information.

**Time to Talk**

The Hampshire Educational Psychology Service are offering Behaviour and Learning consultation sessions to parents and carers who have various concerns about their child. To book a consultation please telephone Louise Arnold on 01962 876366. The following times are still available.

28.04.2010	9.30-10.15am	10.30-11.15am	11.30am-12.15pm	All Seasons Children's Centre, Pennington
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**Water / High-energy drinks**

Thank you for your help in discouraging students from bringing cans of high-energy drink to school. Please keep up the good work! Please also remind your children that we encourage students to drink water throughout the day. There are water machines in the Main Building and in the Nichols Building. In addition, all cold water taps in student toilets are drinking water.

**Uniform**

Thank you for your help in ensuring that the vast majority of students come to school appropriately dressed. As we move towards the summer, please be vigilant in monitoring standards of uniform. In particular:

- Hoodies/cardigans/sweatshirts: Only uniform sweaters are allowed in school. The number of other garments has crept up in the last couple of weeks so, from next week, we will be confiscating any such garments on first sight. They will be returned to students at the end of the day.
- Skirt length: the length of some girls' skirts is becoming a cause for concern. A reminder that our regulations state: "Navy blue skirt of regulation style (length no more than 8cm above the knee or 12cm below the knee)". If wearing socks, they must be a matching pair in white or navy and worn below the knee.

**Mobile phones**

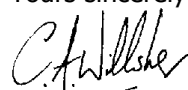
Mobile phone use in school has become an issue on one or two occasions this term. Rather than ban them outright, we have tried to establish an understanding that phones are switched off during the day. This is proving difficult to enforce, particularly when some parents are phoning their children in school! So, may I ask parents not to phone their children during the school day? If there is an emergency of some kind, contact should always be made via the school office.

**And finally...**

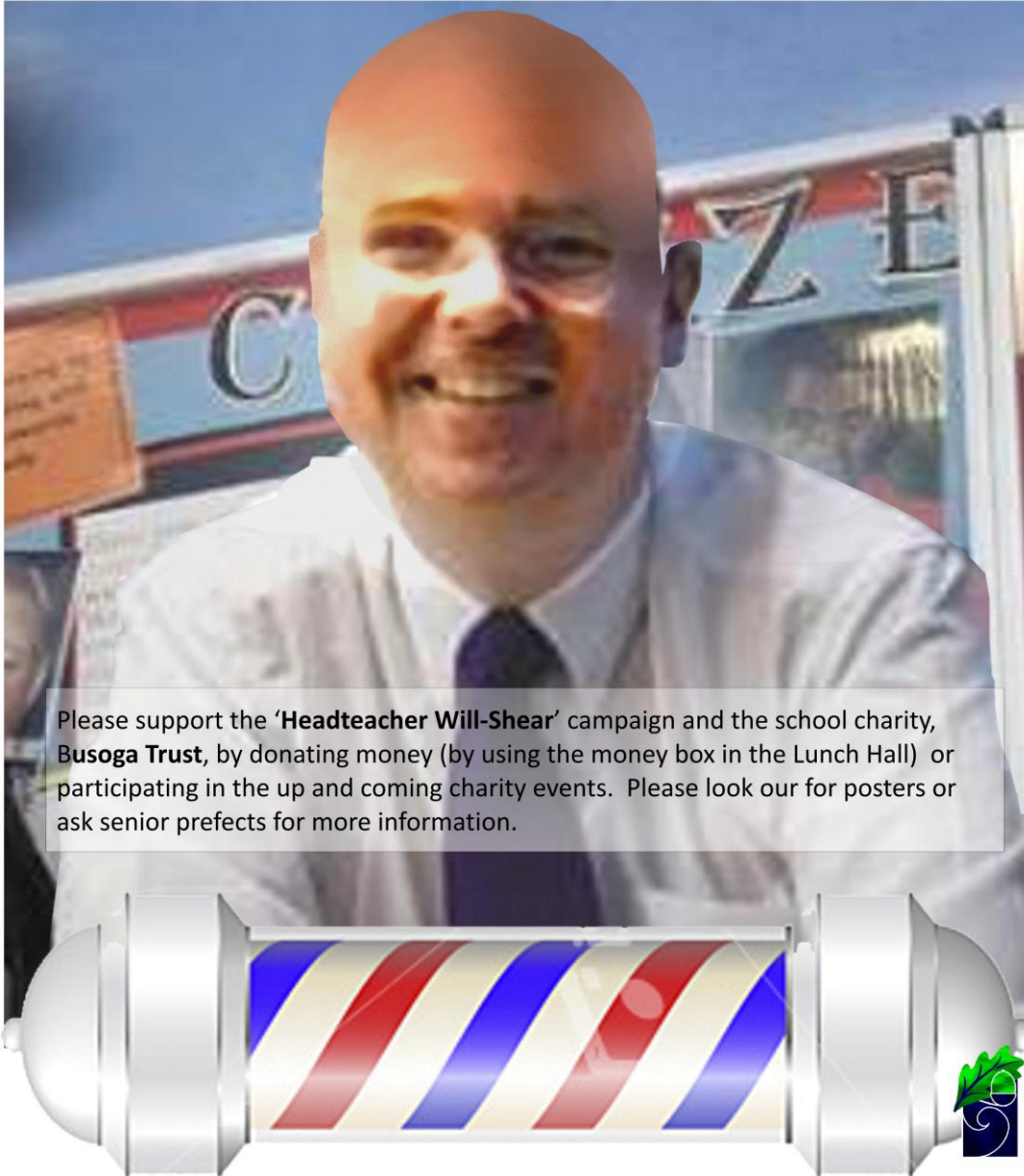
As many parents will be aware, the senior prefect team persuaded me last September to agree to have my head shaved if they raised £4,000 for their chosen charity, the Busoga Trust. At the time, I felt confident that I had set them a suitably ambitious target and that my hair was safe. However, there seems to have been a recent surge in activity and I gather they are less than £1,000 short of their target.

In case they get there, I would be grateful to hear from any suitably qualified parent with the necessary specialist equipment who would be willing to come into school to perform the act, no doubt in front of a large, delighted audience.

Colleagues have also told me that it would be unfair not to give parents the opportunity to contribute to the fund whilst there is still time! Cheques should be made payable to Priestlands School.

Yours sincerely  
  
Headteacher

# Would YOU pay to see THIS?



Please support the 'Headteacher Will-Shear' campaign and the school charity, **Busoga Trust**, by donating money (by using the money box in the Lunch Hall) or participating in the up and coming charity events. Please look out for posters or ask senior prefects for more information.



## **PRIESTLANDS SCHOOL**

### **REMAINING KEY DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2009/2010**

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#### **Spring Term: 4th January - 1st April 2010**

Wednesday 24th March : Year 7 Parents' Evening  
Tuesday 30th March : Academic Review Day 2

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#### **Summer Term: 19th April – 23rd July 2010**

Monday 19th April : Inset Day  
Tuesday 4th May → Friday 7th May : Year 8 Key Stage 3 Tests  
Monday 17th May – Thursday 24th June : Year 11 GCSE Examinations

*(The 2010 exam timetable is now available on our website. GCSE practical exams and oral exams usually take place throughout April and May. Parents are asked to avoid taking Year 11 pupils out of school throughout April, May and June.)*

#### **Half-term: 31st May → 4th June 2010**

Friday 25th June : Inset Day

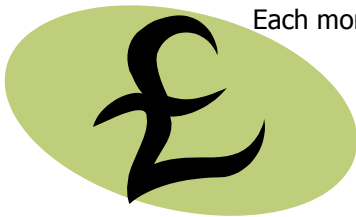
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**Win up to £240  
every month in the  
Priestlands Association 1000 Club**

Help us to help Priestlands School by joining the Priestlands Association 1000 Club.

For just £1.00 a month you can have the opportunity to win up to £240 every month.

Just think, that's one in 1000 chance of winning the Priestlands Association's Lottery compared to one in a 14 million chance of winning the National Lottery!



Each month the Club will run a Lottery. From the proceeds, 60% will be given out in prize money and 40% will go to the Priestlands Association. No money will be spent on administration.



**Rules & Regulations**

1. The Club shall be known as The Priestlands Association 1000 Club.
2. A number will be allocated to each £12.00 contribution per year.
3. Membership will be renewed on an annual basis.
4. Each number will be eligible for one prize only per month.
5. One month's notice must be given to cancel membership.
6. Any member may be allocated more than one number provided that the member pays £12.00 per number per annum.
7. A draw will take place each month on the last day of each month except for the month of December when it will be drawn on the 15th.
8. Prizes will be awarded worth £600 per month, subject to 1000 members, otherwise 60% of the total until a 1000 membership is achieved as follows:
  - First prize: 24% of the prize money to a maximum of £240
  - Second prize: 16% of the prize money to a maximum of £160
  - Third prize: 9% of the prize money to a maximum of £90
  - Fourth prize: 6% of the prize money to a maximum of £60
  - Consolation prize: 1% of the prize money to a maximum of £10
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9. Prize numbers will be posted in the school office each month and in the school's termly newsletters. Winners will receive their prize through the post within five days of the draw.
10. Any queries or disputes may be referred to the Priestlands Association Committee whose decision shall be final and binding.

# PRIESTLANDS' 1000 CLUB

## Standing Order Instruction

Please print out this form, complete the boxes and send to:  
Priestlands 1000 Club, Priestlands School, North Street, Pennington, Lymington, Hampshire SO41 8FZ

We will send you a confirmation acceptance letter along with your membership number

## STANDING ORDER DETAILS

Recipient:	<b>Priestlands Association</b>	Bank	<b>HSBC</b>
Name:	<b>1000 Club</b>	Branch	<b>Lymington</b>
Sort Code:	<b>40-30-36</b>	Account Number	<b>91376446</b>
Bank Branch Address:	<b>102 High Street, Lymington, Hampshire SO41 9ZP</b>		
How often:	<b>Monthly</b>	Date	<b>1st</b>
First payment date:	<input type="text"/>	Monthly Amount	<input type="text"/>

## YOUR DETAILS

Your name:	<input type="text"/>		
Your Bank & Branch:	<input type="text"/>		
Sort Code:	<input type="text"/>	Account Number:	<input type="text"/>
Your telephone number:	Your email address:		
.....	.....		

Your address:	<input type="text"/>
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**I authorise you to debit my/our account, in accordance with the above details**

Signed:	<input type="text"/>
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Date:	<input type="text"/>
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