



August 2010

Dear Parent

Saturday mornings for Year 3-6

As you will remember, we had lengthy consultations about the structure of our Saturday mornings and came to a decision to end Saturday lessons for Year 6 in September. Nevertheless, we very much wanted to ensure that there was a useful, constructive and also enjoyable set of activities that would be attractive not only for our junior boarders but also for day children in Year 3-6.

The following activities will be available next term and details about how to sign up for them are given in each section. You will note that some activities have a supplementary charge. This is because there are external coaches coming in especially to run sessions. However, for any boarders there are activities to do each week that will not involve any extra cost. Please check the attached chart for an overview of all the activities. Priority will be given to boarders when bookings are made. May I suggest that you link in your bookings with any planned Friday night temporary boarding sessions and also with any Saturday afternoon activities, such as matches or Year 6 camp.

For day children, it is perfectly acceptable to attend as many or as few activities as required.

Boarders will be given clear guidance each week about what they are doing! There will also be opportunities for the junior boarders to catch up with music practice. Indeed, any day child staying for the morning who needs to do some practice can be booked in.

I very much hope that all the children from Years 3-6 will find something here that they really enjoy. This is very much an experimental programme and I would welcome feedback that can help us decide what to consider in future terms. Please complete the reply slip and either print out and return to the office or email it to office@vinehallschool.com

With best wishes

A.G. Whitehead
Deputy Head

ACTIVITIES

VERBAL/NON-VERBAL REASONING TECHNIQUES

Mrs Redstone will be offering a weekly session on techniques required for those children who are considering schools which have reasoning tests as part of their entry requirement e.g. Cranbrook, Tonbridge, Eton, Harrow, Sevenoaks etc. This will be in addition to verbal reasoning training which will take place in English lessons. If you are uncertain about whether your child is in need of this extra assistance then please contact Mrs. Redstone directly. It is perfectly acceptable for children doing this session to move on to touch typing for 35 minutes, if you would also like to take advantage of this activity.

EAL/TOUCH TYPING

Mrs Glossop (a trained EAL teacher) will be available to work with any of our overseas boarders during this time. She will also supervise touch typing for any child. There is no charge for these sessions and they can be taken up at any time through the term, providing two days notice has been given and there is space available. (For times see the plan)

TENNIS COACHING

Ms Viljoen will be offering tennis coaching for Years 3/4 (9-10 a.m.), 4/5, (10-11 a.m.) 5/6 (11-12.00pm). The three groups are based on the experience and ability of the children and she is happy to advise about suitability.

The lessons last for one hour and run for four weeks. Each set of four lessons will cost £24. It is perfectly possible to book for two sets of lessons, if you wish your child to receive eight lessons and therefore to have coaching throughout the whole term. The cost for this would be £48.

GOLF COACHING

Professionals from Sedlescombe Golf Club will offer beginners/improvers golf from 9-10 a.m. for the first four Saturdays up to half term (not including exeats). The cost will be £40 per 4 sessions and there will be groups of around five or six.

GOLF INVITATION

Mrs Pickerill is very keen to encourage young golfers. We are blessed by having a really attractive course at Vinehall and in the Michaelmas Term while the course is playable she would like to organise Golf Invitation Saturdays. They mainly run later in the morning, apart from week 1. This is a chance for a Year 3-6 child to come along and play with an adult and for them to team up with a friend, either from inside or outside the school. You are very welcome to invite the parents of children from outside the school, but for reasons of safety they can only be on the school premises if you are there as their host. Mrs Pickerill will need to know who is planning to come the day before. Please leave a note or phone the office.

ART

Mrs Monckton will be providing an art session each week. There is no charge for these sessions, providing two days notice has been given and there is space available. (For times see the plan). In order to develop projects and for the children to undertake more involved pieces of work then it would be advisable to book in for several sessions.

CARPENTRY

Mr Dorman will be providing a carpentry session each week. There is no charge for these sessions, providing two days notice has been given and there is space available. (For times see the plan). Again, in order to develop projects and for the children to undertake more involved pieces of work then it would be advisable to book in for several sessions. A one-off session will not produce a Chippendale chair!

STREET DANCE

Mrs Haffenden will be offering 'Street Dance' sessions involving many styles of dance and movement. These sessions of 45 minutes can be booked 48 hours before and there is a charge of £7 per session.

Additional information.

Safety.

With all these options running at different times, it is essential that we know who is on the premises in case of fire or emergency. You will need to sign the children in and out each week and also any visitors for Invitation Golf.

Dress.

Year 3-6 children will be able to wear home clothes for these activities. They should be smart, casual and practical. The children still represent the school and must look respectable and tidy at all times.

Arrival time.

Please ensure that your day child arrives in plenty of time to start their activity promptly. If you are dropping a Year 7 or 8 child and wish to leave a Year 3-6 sibling for the first activity, then they should sign in and go to assembly at 8.20 a.m. and then they will be supervised until the start of the first activity. There will not, however, be any supervision between other activities and therefore if you are planning, for example, to take up the first and last activity, you must also select one in the middle!